

The Mirror of Life

AN ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY JOURNAL OF SPORT

VOL. XVI. No. 417.

[Entered at
Stationers' Hall.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1901.

[Registered at the General Post
Office as a Newspaper.]

PRICE 2^d.



Mrs. JAMES J. CORBETT,

The Handsome and Fascinating Wife of the ex-Champion of the World.

The Mirror of Life

AN ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY JOURNAL OF SPORT

Published Weekly by
THE SPORTING AND DRAMATIC PRESS, LTD., COLUMBUS HOUSE, 43 AND 43A, FETTER LANE, LONDON, E.C.
 Telegraphic Address: Embankment, London.
 Telephone No. 254 Holborn.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1901.

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One Year, Post Free	10s. 10d.
Six Months, ditto	6s. 6d.
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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SAM COLLINS (Lancashire).—1. He has never met Kid McCoy. **2.** Fitzsimmons lost on a foul to Sharkey, in 8 rounds, at San Francisco on December 2, 1896, and beat him at Coney Island on August 24, 1900.

WHITE (Glynorrigh).—Yes, he has sparring exhibitions at both places.

D. POWELL (Bargod).—Once; and James won in one round.

D. SMITH (Mon.).—Bill Griffiths beat Jem Arnold in four rounds at Brynmawr.

EDWARD TREKMAN.—We are sorry to disappoint you; but we have not got his portrait.

TO MAKE A NOTE OF.

Our Readers should kindly note our New Address:

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VISITORS TO "THE MIRROR OF LIFE" OFFICE.

Among the visitors who have called upon us this week are:—

Roger Mustoe (H.M.S. "Barfleur"), Fred Williams (Somerset Town), Ben Harris (Champion M.C.), Ted Phillips (Birmingham), Miss Polly Fairclough (lady champion boxer), Bert Smith (the Irish Count), Dick Tippet (Channel Islands), Fred Williams, Mr. Lawton (Sandgate), R. Holling (Brompton), Harry Bragg (Stratford), Ernie Stanton (Stratford), Miss Maud Newton, James Murphy (New York), and S. V. Lewis (San Francisco).

OUR LETTER BOX.

LETTERS for the following gentlemen are now lying at THE MIRROR OF LIFE office, and can be had on application, or will be forwarded on receipt of stamped addressed envelope:—

Jack O'Brien, Frank Craig, Patsy Quenan (Chicago), Jim Holloway, Joe Crilling, Jack Everhardt, Alfred Mitchell, Claude Thompson, J. Corbett, Frank Leon (two), Freeman Martin, Ernie Greaves, Mike Flynn, J. H. Wood (clog-dancing promoter), R. Fitzsimmons (three), Jim Davenport (two), C. Harrow, H. Towers, Joe Gans (two), Kid McCoy, Greek George, Professor Cullis, Pop (two), H. Hughes, Eddie (Kid) Johnson, Tom Blaylock, Bill Ruhlman, Tom Sharkey, Sam Blakelock, Bobby Dobbs (two), Jack Fraser, Jimmie Davies, Jasper White, J. Naish, and Beynon (weight-lifter).

THE NEWCASTLE ROW.

ALL ABOUT THE LATE JOHNNY GIDEON.

M'KEEVER'S COMPLAINT.

Mr. ED. PLUMMER, of the "Sporting Life," who refereed the contest between Charley M'Keever and Jack Palmer, at Newcastle, informs us that the match in question was not really a boxing match at all. It was a wrestling match with both men on the floor most of the time, doing all that ought not to be done. Mr. Plummer avers that he was in the ring all the while, vainly trying to get the lads to box fairly. It was "six of one and half-a-dozen of the other"; and, as he could not get them to fight fairly, he declared it "no contest" from the centre of the arena.

THE decease of Johnny Gideon, the guide, philosopher, and friend of old-time scrappers, is a matter of some interest to our readers. Johnny was born on June 10, 1823; and, from his boyhood, he took a keen interest in sport, more especially in fighting. It was his delight to pit two youngsters together; and many a time have lads fought for several hours for a stray half-sovereign put up by Gideon. He was made a member of Tattersall's when Blink Bonny won the Derby in '57, being proposed by Lord Drumlanrig, the father of the late Marquis of Queensberry, who framed the celebrated boxing rules. The first prize-fight witnessed by Johnny was between Tony Burt and Jem Knowlton, at Grays, in Essex; the men competing for £30. He witnessed every fight, or almost every one, of importance from that time until the Slavin-McAuliffe match at the Ormonde Club, in 1890. He backed a good many noted pugilists, too, in the old days; and he saw the majority of the battles which took place between the best men of the time, including Harry Paulsen, Nat Langham, Aaron Jones, Tom Paddock, Bendigo, Jem Mace, Bill Hayes, Mike Madden, George Crockett (still all alive), Alec Keene, Jimmy Welsh, Tom Tyler, Jerry Noon, Bendoff, Dan Mendosa, and last, but not least, Tom Sayers.

It was when Sayers was going to fight Harry Paulsen, of Nottingham, that he first gained the friendship of Johnny Gideon. The Nottingham man was a firm favourite at 6 to 4 and 2 to 1 on. When they stripped at Appledore, in Kent, it was ten degrees below freezing point; and they fought 109 rounds, lasting 3 hours 8 minutes, before the sponge was thrown up by Paulsen's seconds. It was owing to Gideon that Sayers was not defeated by Aaron Jones, who was five years younger than Tom, scaled 12st., and stood within 4in. of 6ft. They fought on the banks of the River Medway on January 6, 1857; and a desperate battle was waged until darkness set in—over three hours later. Jones was seconded by Alec Keene and Mike Madden, and Tom by George Crockett (who is hale and hearty still, and lives in Lambeth) and Jimmy Welsh. It was freezing hard and snow was falling fast. So cold did it become, that Sayers called for neat brandy. Gideon, however, would not let him have it; he insisted on its being diluted with some strong black tea. Sayers was greatly refreshed by the dose anyway; and he lasted until a draw was declared, when it was too dark to fight longer. Jones' seconds vainly begged of Johnny to part with some of the stimulant, but he would not hand over a drop; and he told off Harry Savage, Tom Tyler, Splawger Spriggins, Jerry Noon, Bendoff, and Coobiddy to look after it. Two of these—the first and last named—are alive yet; and they can verify this statement. Armed with dusters, "coshes," etc., those named stood guard over the precious stuff; and when Sayers had had all he required, Gideon (so that his opponent should not get any) threw the whole apparatus into the river.

Sayers and Jones fought on February 10, in the same year, for £400; and, after a very hard and punishing fight of 85 rounds, lasting over two

hours, Sayers won. It would fill this journal for many weeks to recount the life of Johnny Gideon in full; and we will simply add that the last big fight he witnessed was between Slavin and McAuliffe, for £1,000 a-side, at the Ormonde Club, London, on September 27, 1890. The lanky Australian (now digging gold in Klondyke) won in two rounds, lasting only six minutes. No account of Gideon's life can be written without mention of Sayers and John Carmel Heenan, the Benicia Boy. Johnny Gideon backed Tom; and it was mainly through him that England's champion held his own with one of the most honest, resolute, and indomitable fighters who ever came from the Other Side.

THEO. ROOSEVELT, BOXER.

HE LIKES THE NOBLE ART.

LIKE the present King, the Czar of Russia and other distinguished potentates, President Roosevelt is by no means averse to witnessing a boxing match, or putting 'em up himself. In his capacity of Police Commissioner he was present at the contest between Peter Maher and Joe Choynski, which took place in the Broadway Athletic Club, New York, on November 16, 1896, Maher winning in six rounds. Arthur T. Lumley, who sat in the box adjoining that occupied by the President, thus describes the incident:—

"Roosevelt took great interest in the combat, and chatted along in a merry way to all those around him. Choynski looked like a winner up to the deciding punch. He continually jabbed Maher with his left, and sent the latter's head back with many a straight one.

"Why, Maher does not seem to be able to land," said the President, turning to me.

"Wait," I answered; "he'll get there directly."

"But," continued Roosevelt, "he can't stand those lefts all night. Why, I'm considerably disappointed. I heard that the Irishman was a knocker-out. He's getting the worst of it now."

"Go in, Joe!" "Put him out, Joe!" cried friends of the Hebrew.

"Joseph did go in; and he mixed it up with Peter. It was a hot fight; and there was great excitement around the ring. Everybody was hot in collar except the President, who sat coolly watching the struggling gladiators with half a smile. 'It's certainly a great battle,' he said, as he adjusted his glasses.

"Bang went the Irishman's right; and bang went the Hebrew's head on the boards of the ring platform. It was a clean cut shot, as clean and complete as a ball from a cannon. It was the finish. Poor Joe was down and out—dead to the world for at least ten minutes.

"That fellow can certainly punch when he lands right," said the President, as he rose to go.

"Mr. Commissioner! Mr. Commissioner!" cried several reporters, as they stepped over the seats to get to Roosevelt: "What's your opinion of the fight?"

"Splendid match; very interesting and scientific for such big men," answered Mr. Roosevelt, as he made for the door.

"But don't you think it was brutal, Mr. Commissioner?" persisted a reporter.

"Brutal: not at all," was the reply. "Why, I've been knocked out myself in the same manner when I was a young fellow at Harvard College. Brutal, eh? Why, what did you come here to see—a lawn tennis game?"

A NOTING ACTRESS.

MISS EVA MOORE is one of the latest devotees to automobilism; and she has recently been presented by her husband, Mr. H. V. Esmond, with a motor of her own. Mrs. Esmond disdains the services of a mechanic; she prefers to look after her machine with her own hands. Mrs. Esmond has always had a fondness for machinery and taking things to pieces; and she is quite expert at fixing up her own motor. During her recent holiday in Wales, while she was out driving in her motor with her husband, the chain suddenly broke. As the motor was then miles away from any village, Mr. and Mrs. Esmond were forced either to mend their machine or to leave it ignominiously by the wayside. They succeeded in riveting the chain together with all the skill of professional mechanics; and, for some weeks, Mrs. Esmond bore the marks on her fingers caused by the pressure of the screws. During her present tour with Mr. George Alexander, Mrs. Esmond has been compelled to leave her cherished motor behind her in town. But she is more than consoled for its absence by the companionship of her two-year-old son and heir, Jack Esmond Jack, who accompanies his mother wherever she goes.

AMERICAN GOSSIP.

CHAT FROM THE OTHER SIDE.

"Joe" Choynski, the Californian heavy-weight has issued a challenge to meet Jeffries for the heavy-weight championship.

Choynski once fought the champion twenty rounds to a draw, and he believes that his showing entitles him to at least a return match with the big boilermaker.

That Choynski is confident that he can defeat Jeffries there can be no doubt, judging from his offer to the champion.

Choynski says he will fight Jeffries, winner take all. He is now in New York and, while he is not anxious to enter the ring, he would do so if he could secure a match with Jeffries.

The champion feather-weight, "Young Corbett," intends to rest a while before he defends his newly-acquired title against all comers.

John Corbett, manager and chief adviser to the little champion, met Sam Harris to talk over details for a return match with McGovern, but no definite plans were arranged for the future.

Corbett declared that his man was going to rest for the time being, and would not entertain any proposition for a match until after January 1, when he would be open to all challengers for feather-weight honours.

Harris is displeased at the turn of affairs, and accuses the manager of the new champion of showing the white feather. He says he is convinced that "Young Corbett" is not willing to fight McGovern, and that the latter will take on any aspiring young man with the ambition to shine in the twenty-four foot ring at 126 pounds.

"We will go down the line," said Harris. "Kid" Broad, Dave Sullivan, Abe Attell, or any other good man can get a fight with us mighty quick. Then we will see if this man from the West can still put us off in the way he has been doing. I am sure McGovern can fight them all over again and win, and when he does Corbett and his manager must give us another fight."

McGovern has started fighting already. At Reading, Pa., he put the quietus to the championship aspirations of Jack Donahue, of Philadelphia, knocking him out in the second round of what was to have been a four-round bout with an upper-cut on the jaw. The fighting from the start was fast and furious. Donahue was thirty pounds heavier than Terry.

George McFadden would like to get on a match with "Rube" Ferns, the clever welter-weight. McFadden called at the "Journal" office lately, and stated that he would fight Ferns at 142 pounds. McFadden said he was not particular about the weight, and that he was only anxious to clinch a match under any fair conditions.

The next big fight in which the welter-weights will be engaged will be between Jim Ferns, the white champion, and Joe Walcott, the negro leader, and after its result the mixed welter-weight championship should be no more in doubt than the light-weight championship.

Ruhlman picked up a few dollars in Salt Lake City by boxing Jim Burns, of Spokane, six one-minute rounds. Ruhlman had a walk-over, but did not even try to score a knock-out. Ruhlman and Madden have gone to Chicago. When they reach the Windy City they will go fishing for any heavy-weight match they can get.

Jim Kennedy, who so successfully managed the Jeffries-Ruhlman fight, does not take kindly to much of the criticism on the bout.

The appearance of Col. Henry Templeton, of Pittsburgh, in town set those in the general "know" of things guessing. When Col. Templeton is around there is generally "something doing."

At the Keystone Athletic Club, America, on December 6, Jeffords and McCormick, the two well-known heavy-weights, met in a fifteen-round match. Jeffords had slightly the best of the business all through, and managed to knock his opponent out just before the close of the fifteenth round.

THE TATTER.

PEDESTAL DANCING.—Hearing so much talk recently about the question of who is England's champion pedestal dancer, a well-known London music-hall manager is willing to match Stewart Linton against all comers for a stake of £25 up to £50, to dance on a 12-inch slab pedestal. Stewart Linton is engaged as a drummer in 4th Royal Garrison Regiment, Aldershot, where he is very popular with all his regiment.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

TOM SHARKEY.

"THE SAILOR LAD," as Sharkey is called, was born at Dugalk, Ireland, on November 26, 1873. He stands 5ft. 8½ in.; and he is in the heavy-weight division. His first battles on record were in 1894, when he defeated Jack Langley, 8 rds.; Rough Thompson, 1 and 3 rds.; Nick Burley, 8 rds.; Geo. Washington (who couldn't tell a lie), 2 rds.; Billy Tate, 4 rds.; and Sailor Brown, 2 rds. In '96 and '97 he beat Joe Choyinski in 8 rds.; Jim Williams and Joe Goddard; and he won on a foul in 8 rds. with Bob Fitzsimmons. He boxed 3 rds. with John L. Sullivan (no decision); and he drew with J. J. Corbett, 4 rds.; and Peter Maher, 7 rds. In '98 and '99 he lost to J. J. Jeffries in 20 rds.; drew with Joe Choyinski, 8 rds.; and Tommy Ryan, 6 rds.; beat Gus Ruhlin, 1 rd.; Kid McCoy, 10 rds.; and Jack McCormick, 2 rds.; and he won on a foul from Corbett, in 9 rds. Last year, he beat Joe Goddard, 4 rds.; Jim Jeffries, 2 rds.; Jim McCormick, 1 rd.; Tom Conroy, 3 rds.; Joe Choyinski, 2 rds.; and Yank Kenny, 1 rd. He was beaten by Gus Ruhlin in 15 rds., and by Bob Fitzsimmons in 2 rds. Now Tom wants to meet J. J. Jeffries for the world's championship.

JIMMY CURRAN.

JIMMY CURRAN, of Rotherham, is twenty-six years of age; and his height is 5ft. 7½ in. He has beaten Leadbeater, of St. Helens; Bradley, of Attercliffe; and Frank Casey, 20 rds. He has been beaten by Harry Greenfield, 9 rds.; Johnny Hughes, 10 rds.; and "Spike" Sullivan, 20 rds. He also met Johnny Hughes at the N.S.C. on April 25, 1898, and was beaten easily on points in 20 rds. He met Jack Bennett in Philadelphia, 6 rds. (no decision); and he was beaten by Jack Daley, 20 rds., Syracuse. Jimmy being unable to do any good for himself in America returned to England, where he met Jim Holloway, of South Africa, being defeated in 13 rds. While in America Curran met, amongst others, Jack Bennett, of Pittsburgh, in a six-round contest (no decision); he beat Casey, of New York, at the Pelican Club, Brooklyn, in 20 rds.; he fought Jack Daly, of Syracuse, 20 rds.; and Yank Sullivan, 20 rds. He also beat Jack Fox, of Brooklyn, in the second round, at the Brooklyn Pelican Club. He fought "Mysterious" Kirwin of Chicago, at that city, three nights later, in a six-round contest, when there was no decision. He is matched to meet Jabez White, of Birmingham, at the Warwickshire Repository; and a full account of the battle will appear in our next issue.

BILLY ROTCHFORD.

BILLY ROTCHFORD was born on December 2, 1877, at Chicago, Illinois; and he stands 5ft. 5 in. in height. Billy has fought the following men:—Knocked out E. Baldwin, 1 rd.; Charlie Ritchie, 2 rds.; W. Pierson, 2 rds.; Nelson Frazier, 3 rds.; Jack Foley, 2 rds.; Jack Sullivan, 6 rds.; and Frank Smith, 4 rds. Beat McNichols (of Chicago), 4 rds.; Joe Hartnell, 4 rds.; T. Drisbach, 3 rds.; A. Shannerson, 3 rds.; Dan Rewan, 3 rds.; Ed. Dwyer, 3 rds.; Al. Alberts, 8 rds. Stopped J. Crowfoot, 3 rds.; and "Australian" Billy Murphy, 3 rds. Beat Jimmy Rose, 8 rds.; Al. Allen, 10 rds.; Patsey Broderick, 10 rds.; Benny Leon, 10 rds.; Frank Zimpher, 10 rds.; Tom Cooney, 6 rds.; Oscar Gardner, 20 rds. Drew with Mike Sears, 15 rds. (police stopped the fight, Sears all but out, Rotchford receiving the winner's end of the purse); and Patsey Broderick, 15 rds. He met "Pedlar" Palmer at the N.S.C., being disqualified in the third round; and he is now open to meet Terry McGovern or Young Corbett for \$1,000 and the championship.

JOE CHOYNSKI.

THIS famous heavy-weight boxer was born in San Francisco, California, on Nov. 8, 1868; and he stands 5ft. 10½ in. In '84 he beat Tom Moran, 2 rds.; and lost to Jim Corbett, in 1 rd. His subsequent record is far too long to give in detail; but we may mention that in 1897 he drew with Jeffries, 20 rds.; and beat Denver E. Smith and Herman Bernau, in 4 rds. In '98 he beat Ed. Dunkhurst, in 6 rds.; and drew with Tom Sharkey, 8 rds.; no decisions being given in fights with Gus Ruhlin and Joe Goddard, in 6 rds. In '99 he beat Jack McCormack, 6 rds.; Pete Everett, 7 rds.; "Australian" (Jimmy) Ryan, 7 and 20 rds.; Jim Hall, 3 rds.; Steve O'Donnell, 5 rds.; Tom Casey, 2 rds.; drawing with Kid McCoy in 6 rds., and losing in 20. Last year he lost to Kid McCoy, 4 rds.; Joe Walcott, 7 rds.; and Tom Sharkey, 2 rds.; but beat Peter Maher in 6 rds.; J. Matthews, 8 rds.; Jim Smith, 2 rds.; and Fred Russell, 4 rds.

HARRY BELL.

THIS popular sport, whose photo we reproduce, was born at Silsoe, Bedfordshire, in 1856; and he spent his early days about the green fields of his native county. When quite a youth, however, he came to the "big smoke," going to the Salisbury Hotel, Salisbury-square, Fleet-street, at that time a very different place to what it is now. "Modern improvements" have swept away many of the old courts and alleys of London, around Fleet-street as elsewhere. Instead of the ramshackle buildings that used to line the narrow streets, we have broad thoroughfares and vast offices, gaining in comfort what we lost in picturesqueness. Anyway, at Salisbury-court, Harry then entered the service of Mr. Winterbottom, of Peele's Hotel. There he became initiated into the arts and mysteries of the kitchen, studying under one of the best chefs of the day. When exactly thirty years of age, Mr. Bell joined his uncle, Fred Olney, at the Silver Cup, Cromer-street, Gray's Inn-road, afterwards going to the old Griffin, Reid's brewery tap-house in Liquorpond-street. Thence he went to the Old Red Cow, King-street, Hammersmith; as manager of the Admiral Keppell, Fulham-road; with Mr. Gabb at the Tavistock Hotel, Westbourne Park; with Mr. J. Hollyman, at Neville's Cross, Denmark-road, Kilburn (where he remained for five years); and several other houses besides, in which he gained much valuable experience. Having served an apprenticeship, and thoroughly knowing his business, Harry set up for himself at the Crown on the Albert Embankment; this step he followed up by becoming the proprietor of the Dover Castle, Deptford; and afterwards of the Windmill, High-street, Lambeth. Harry then took another house at Greenwich, named the Dover Castle, purchasing it from another Mr. Bell—a peculiar coincidence. Then he became host of the Britannia at Peckham, where he proved the most popular of "Bonis," also purchasing the Roebuck at Kennington Cross. The last two houses he has since parted with, his idea being to concentrate the whole of his undivided attention upon one house. He is now devoting his long experience, knowledge of the trade, good fellowship, and happy disposition to the White Horse, Rupert-st., Shaftesbury-avenue, W., where real sportsmen (and other agreeable persons) are always welcome. "Harry" (as his friends always call him) is one of the jolliest. He used to be an able exponent of the art of self-defence, a good cricketer, and an excellent swimmer. He can play a good game at billiards, and he knows more than a little about horses and dogs. At the White Horse he is a particular favourite; and there you will find him fraternising with all present—friends, acquaintances, or strangers. The accommodation at the White Horse is excellent; there are no fewer than five bars, to suit all classes of customers. Harry is a firm favourite with everybody; a rattling good sport; and generally one of the very best.

BILL GRIFFITHS.

BILL GRIFFITHS first started boxing about two years ago. He won a competition in William Samuel's booth; and next he met "Pedlar" Mackman, of Swansea, by whom he was defeated in 8 rds. He beat Jack Hares, of Merthyr, in 3 rds.; and when opposed to Rees Owen, he defeated the latter somewhat easily in 4 rds. He met James Arnold at Brynamwr, and won in 4 rds.; but he was defeated by Tom James, of Aberavon. Griffiths is matched with Alf Rodway, of Ebbw Vale, the bout to be decided on Christmas Eve.

BOXING AT WOOLWICH.

THERE was a large and orderly assembly last Saturday night at the Drill Hall, Woolwich, and they enjoyed the many bouts staged for their amusement. The special features of the entertainment were three-round trials between Charley McKeever and Ben Taylor, "the Woolwich Infant." This was a scientific bout; and with both in the humour for sparring, some pretty play was seen. Taylor, though a couple of stone the heavier, let up at times, and loud cheers greeted the conclusion of a scientific bout. The bout between Sandy Ferguson, of Boston, U.S.A., and Jack Walsh, of Canning Town, proved to be one of those affairs no one can understand. Ferguson evidently hit too hard, even in the opening round, for Walsh, who was not having any, and cut it after twenty-five seconds. In 6-round contests, Ted Goldfinch beat W. Hodge, and Lew Kendrick beat Fred Fairchild. In 6-round bouts, Alf. Payne beat W. Keen, Peter Brown beat Kid Le Grange, George Brooks beat Pte. Callan; Bill Johnson beat Bert Gayler, and Fred Delaney beat Dave Burton.

THE TURF.

By "Spot."

THE COMING CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACING.

The Book Calendar, just published, gives some interesting tables which go to show the vast amount of money involved in racing. The total value of stakes won during 1901, calculated according to Rule 117 of the Rules of Racing (not including prizes to second and third horses, and exclusive of Matches) was: In England, £479,100 18s.; in Ireland, £30,431 0s. 2d.; in Scotland, £14,789. The full total exceeds half a million in amount, and these are but minor figures. The value of the thoroughbreds, the costly training expenses, and the amount of capital invested in race-course companies, would tot up to a tremendous amount. The interests of the Turf are indeed vast and far-reaching.

I am led to make these remarks by having read the exulting comments of the Anti-Gambling League over the recent bank frauds. In the alleged misdoings of people who form part of the least reputable portion of racing, the Anti-Gamblers find a fresh means of attacking the sport as a whole. Could they get their way, the Turf would be crippled or abolished altogether. It seems an absurdity that an organisation like Mr. John Hawke's, with a paltry income of some £300 annually, should be allowed to create such a disturbance. For this the racing community is much to blame. If racing men would combine and develop one-tenth of the energy displayed by Mr. John Hawke, the attacks so continually made by him and his followers would fail in effect. Apart from his clerical following, Mr. John Hawke's supporters are mainly dear old maiden ladies, who know nothing of the real bearings of the subject. They contribute their half-crowns and five shillings, and in return the champion of the Anti-Gamblers gives them an exceedingly good run for their money. There is every indication that the new year will bring with it an all-round attack on the Turf by the faddists. They are few in number, but well led; and their noisy demonstrations are bound to have effect, unless met with promptitude and unity.

The birth of the new year will bring us the entries for the big spring handicaps. When these arrive, there will be something for consideration. At present racing matters are of the duller nature. This week's holiday fixtures are at Kempton Park and Wolverhampton, winding up with a Saturday meeting at Hurst Park. The programme at each meeting looks promising; and, weather permitting, good sport is certain. We shall have the best things at each place wired up early, and our telegram subscribers can prepare themselves for a good time.

Drumree's win at Haydock Park was a vast improvement on his Kempton Park running, and the Duke of Westminster's horse can be made much better. Joseph Cannon can be depended on to time Drumree's Grand National preparation to a nicety, and there is no trainer breathing better able to get the best out of a candidate for the big Aintree event. There is certain to be a strong opposition, as His Majesty's Ambush II. is a certain competitor. Ambush II. was a gallant winner of this race in 1900, and his absence last year was due to a well-known cause. In addition to the King's horse, there are Manifesto and Drogheda (both previous winners at Aintree) to be reckoned with. Of this pair, Drogheda, with youth on his side, is probably the best. Last year's second in the Grand National, Drumree, will again essay the task, and he is doing well under Sir Charles Nugent's care at Cranborne. I hear that Mr. John Gubbins, of Galtee More fame, is sending some 'chasers to Cranborne, so that Sir Charles Nugent should hold a strong hand. Mr. John Gubbins, who has ridden the winners of some good steeplechasers in his time, came very near winning the Grand National with Usna. Seaman, with an amateur in Lord Manners in the saddle, just managed to last home on three legs in 1892. In doing this he beat Mr. John Gubbins' Cyrus, and the defeat was not a palatable one. Mr. Gubbins had sold Seaman out of his stable the previous winter, and so unwittingly parted with the winner.

Sam Levy will hold his annual solree and ball at the King's Hall, Commercial-road, on January 18, 1902. Charlie Deane has promised a silver cup and a gold watch for the best-dressed lady and gentleman, and Gershon Harris will officiate as referee.

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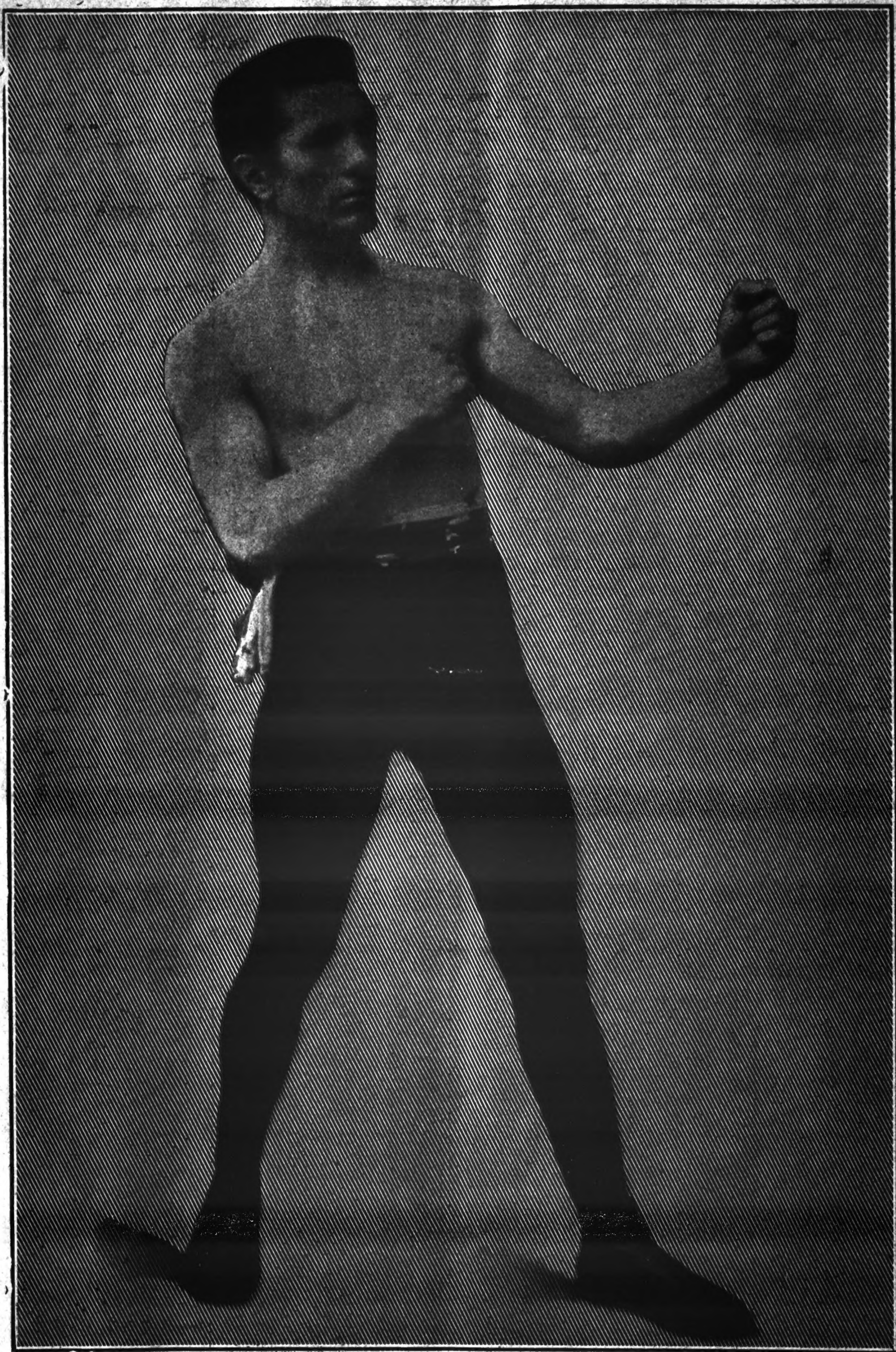
SPECIAL NOTICE.

"The Mirror of Life" is especially well placed to obtain information during the present season under National Hunt Rules. Those who rely upon either class of these wires may depend on a satisfactory winter season.

HURST PARK.

Saturday's Special Week-end Wire will contain a Champion Selection for Hurst Park, and will be despatched early to all who remit 2s.

Remittances should be sent by Postal Order, to The Manager, "The Mirror of Life," 43 and 43a, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.



BILLY ROTCHFORD,

Of America, who has Challenged Young Corbett and Terry McGovern for the Featherweight Championship.



GENERAL FRENCH,

The Finest Cavalry Officer in the British Army, who caught Kritzinger last week in Cape Colony.



COMING EVENTS.

The following contests will take place during December:

- DECEMBER 21—Bill Griffiths and Alf Rodway at the Drill Hall, Brynmawr.
 DECEMBER 24—Special Entertainment at Wonderland.
 DECEMBER 24—Boxing at Newcastle.
 DECEMBER 26—9st. 6lb. Professional competition at Wonderland.
 DECEMBER 26—Jim Driscoll (Cardiff) and Joe Ross (London) for £50 at the Swiss Hall, Cardiff.
 DECEMBER 28—Boxing at Newcastle.
 DECEMBER 28—Boxing at Wonderland.
 DECEMBER 30—J. Gill and M. McGivern for £50 and the best purse.

THE NATIONAL SPORTING CLUB.

THURSDAY'S MATINEE.

A 10st. 6lb. NOVICES' COMPETITION.

At headquarters last Thursday there was a large attendance when Mr. Bettinson staged a 10st. 6lb. competition, in order to discover a few lads capable of sustaining old England's honour against our cousins across the herring pond. It is competitions like this that give lads a chance of showing what they can really do. If found capable here, they can aspire to the highest realms of fistic glory. Some useful lads took part in the competition, among the sixteen being Jim Scott, of Stoke Newington; Tuzzev Winters, of Rotherhithe; Sam Cavill, of Australia; R. Andrews, of Charing Cross; Jim Tur er, of Willesden; and T. Rotchford, of Bloomsbury. Mr. Tom Scott discharged the duties of referee; Messrs. G. N. Hall-Say and E. Maurice were the judges; Mr. J. Gavin timekeeper; and Mr. A. F. Bettinson M.C. The boxers were looked after by Bill Baxter and Arthur Gutteridge.

10st. 6lb. Novices' Competition.—Tuzzev Winters (Rotherhithe) beat Jack O'Donnell (Marylebone).—Winters set a very hot pace, and set about his man to such an extent that the bout was stopped in the opening round.—Jim Scott (Stoke Newington) beat C. Labbett (Bloomsbury).—Another brief bout, lasting barely two minutes. Scott set his man a red-hot pace, but though Labbett did his best, he was on the floor at the end of a minute. Three times he went down, but quickly rose again, only to be quite outpointed, and the bout was wisely stopped before the first round finished.—R. Andrews (Charing Cross) beat Joe Lodge (Bloomsbury).—Both a shade slow, but yet in dead earnest. Lodge cut out the work, but early ran up against a fairly straight left, which Andrews used with some effect, and gained a lead in the opening round. The second saw the exchanges again of a brisk nature. Both went down in a clinch, and though Lodge did a little better, he failed to rub off any of the points previously scored against him. At the third meeting Andrews kept the left at work, and, cleaner in his hitting, he secured the award of the judges.—Sam Cavill (Australia) beat George Love (Somerset Town).—darkie, Cavill, was the bigger and stronger man, and Love, starting slogging, was soon glad to get down and out of danger. Cavill fibbed away at the body, and Love, weak in his returns, went down three times in the first round. Coming up again, the black did pretty nearly all the work. Love tapped and flipped away in a manner that brought a caution from the referee, and after the white man had been upset again he held out his

hand before the end of the second round.—T. Rotchford (Bloomsbury) beat Lance-Corp. Frampton (A.S.C.).—The representative of the military was receiver-general from the start, Rotchford getting the better on all points. Little damage was, however, effected until the round was nearly completed, when Frampton, not caring to go on with the spar, signified his intention of retiring.—E. Percy (Islington) beat C. Thomas (Paddington).—The Islingtonian gave his opponent not the slightest rest from the sound of the bell. Sending him to the ropes on either side of the ring, and half dazing him, there was no doubt about Percy being the better man. The other was game enough, but the fates were against him, and with points going the same way, a couple of minutes was sufficient to terminate proceedings in favour of Percy.—Tim Tooney (Westbourne Park) beat Fred Barker (Holloway).—Three-quarters of a round was needed to settle the issue here, for, after Tooney had followed his rival round the ring delivering stiff work as he went, the referee, seeing that Barker had no earthly chance of even making a decent show, stopped the bout, and awarded Tooney the right of entering the second series.—Jim Turner (Willesden) beat Jim Riley (Lambeth).—Being evenly matched the men put up a lively bout. Turner did most of the leading off, but was well countered in the early part of the round. Clinching was scarce, and the men boxing in correct fashion proved interesting to watch. There was nothing in it until the third set-to was announced, when by sheer hard work and a useful administration of the left, he got the verdict.

Second Series.—Scott beat Winters.—Winters was giving away something in height and reach to a heavier man than himself. Directly they met the men began thumping left and right, and heavy two-handed work was the result. Scott forced Winters, and the last-named staggered his man with some spanking rights on the head. It was blow for blow without a break, with Scott staying best and hitting a shade harder than his opponent. Finally Winters received a hard rap on the head, and the bout was stopped.—Cavill beat Andrews.—The last-named did not appear to relish his job, and while Cavill put some power behind his blows, Andrews flapped for a while with the open glove. Later he began better work, but Cavill was the stronger, and at the end of the first round Andrews, hurting his right arm, retired.—Percy beat Rotchford.—A ding-dong battle, full of hard and determined hitting. Neither man exhibited any defence; they fought each other all over the ring. Percy slipped down twice, but, showing a lot of power, he crowded in some effective two-handed work, while Rotchford was always busy with the left. The first round saw honours pretty even, but in the second Percy showed to advantage, and, getting the better of some exciting exchanges, he had his opponent tired and beaten before the sound of the gong.—Turner beat Tooney.—Tooney cut some peculiar antics at the start, and then doing a bit of boxing, he landed more than once without a return. Just, however, when he looked like having matters his own way, the boxer named retired before the end of the opening round.

FOUR-ROUND CONTEST.

J. Lamb (Lambeth) beat F. Spooner (Lambeth).—Lamb got home on the face with force, while Spooner was apparently content to use his right on the ribs, with just an occasional straight left-hander. In the second round Lamb was the aggressor, driving the other in front, while Spooner's left eye soon showed signs of the other's work. Lamb was also marked, and after a hard round the rest was most welcome. Lamb pursued his tactics during the third round, which was of a laughable character. The smaller man was strong on his legs, and with heaps of power behind every blow. The round of applause which greeted their return to corners previous to the last round was well deserved. Continuing to have a slight lead, Lamb plucked away with both hands, and although occasionally getting a stinging blow on the face, more than held his own, and, in the end the judges were unanimous in their decision in Lamb's favour, thus altering the reverse sustained by him a fortnight ago.

The concluding bouts in connection with the 10st. 6lb. novices' competition took place on Monday night, being included in the mammoth programme arranged on the occasion of Mr. A. F. Bettinson's annual benefit, full particulars of which will appear in our next edition.

A CONCERT AT THE N.S.C.

THE "REFEREE" FUND.

The sweet cause of charity has never yet been deserted by sportsmen; and whether in the lowest parts of the East-end or the aristocratic West, it is only necessary that a popular man should be at the helm to make success a certainty. In past years those gentlemen who patronise the noble art of self-defence at the Covent Garden establishment have answered to the call, not only at the N.S.C., but at other places, too; and last Monday there were few vacant seats. Some were, unfortunately, unable to be present, but the fact remains that even their absence will be the means of feeding many a hungry child through the "Referee" Fund during the wintry season. Whoever was responsible for the innovation may take credit to himself that he has done much good to poor little children who could not help themselves; and there must be thousands of youngsters who will for ever remember this kindly work. To obtain subscriptions for a fund such as this is not a very difficult task. But the laying out of £ s. d. to the best advantage is a different matter; and, as last year's balance sheet shows, there is no waste whatever. Mr. A. F. Bettinson, manager of the N.S.C., as usual entered into the spirit of the thing; and to make everything a success he invoked the services of some seventy leading artists of the theatrical and musical stage. Everyone gave their services free; and the floral decorations and programmes were presented by kindly-disposed firms. The orchestral arrangements were in the able hands of Mr. Norfolk Megone, Mr. Angelo A. Ascher, and Mr. Sinclair Mantell directing. With Mr. Bettinson as the general manager; Mr. H. Chance-Newton and Mr. John Le Hay as acting managers; and Mr. John Morris and Mr. Walter Tilbury as stage managers, there was never a dull moment during the entertainment.

To give all the programme would require a paper to itself. But those who are acquainted with music and operatic artists will judge fairly well of the quality when such names as the following are associated with it:—Mrs. Beerholm Tree, Miss Louise Baudet, Miss Marguerite Cornille, Miss Connie Ediss, Miss May Hayden, Miss Alma Jones, Miss Carrie Laurie and her juveniles, Miss Madge Lessing, Miss Kate Phillips, Miss Minnie Shatel, Miss Gertrude Snow, Miss Elsie Southgate, Zeffie Tilbury, and last of the list of ladies, but by no means least, Miss Nita Clavering, who sang Mr. John Bradford's song, "Little Red Cross." Of the mere male there was a plentiful supply, including all kinds and conditions of contributions from Messrs. Herbert Emlyn, Arthur Faber, The Follies, Richard Green, Herbert Grover, Nelson Hardy, Carl Hertz, Sydney Jamieson, Sergeant Lee, the Marguerite Quintette, the Meister Glee Singers, Walter Passmore, J. B. Preston, Courtice Pounds, Norman Salmond, John L. Shine, Walter Tilbury, Fred Wright, jun., Lewis Waller, B. Hart, and W. W. Read (Surrey C.C.).

FROM CANADA.

ERNIE STANTON AND THE "MIRROR."

ERNIE STANTON called at our office on Thursday, looking as well as ever; and, in spite of his bulk, as spry as ever, too. It may be news to our readers to hear that this clever youth, who fought Pedlar Palmer (then in his prime) 20 and 15 rounds at the N.S.C., when at Montreal met Mike Crotty in an off-hand battle of 10 rounds. Mr. Harry Jelby and Mr. Clark saw to the details of the match, which was decided at the Twin Theatre, Montreal. Denny Lyons trained the Englishman; while Jim Anderson saw to the condition of his rival. Crotty was the favourite; and he was seconded by Jim Anderson and Martin Ganns; while Tom Lyons, Billy Roberts and a well-known heavy Australian boxer were in Stanton's corner. The referee was a noted sport of the town; and H. Bonner acted as timekeeper. The lads fought for a £60 purse; and a rousing cheer went up when they entered the ring. Ernie had been thoroughly trained; and he showed his old form, hitting his man time after time without a return. By the end of the third round the Englishman had only to last to win. But the orders were "put him out or you cannot win." Whether this was to force Ernie on, or what, we do not know. But with three hundred dollars (and a wee bit more) at stake, Ernie put in all he knew. However, his opponent was a big, strong fellow; and he managed to last until, in the last round, Stanton sent the left on the body and the right on the point, thus ending the battle.

THE BANTAM CHAMPIONSHIP.

HARRY WARE v. ANDREW TOKELL.

HARRY WARE, of Holcot, Northampton, and Andrew Tokell, of South Shields, are matched to box the best of twenty three-minute rounds, with 6oz. gloves, at 8st. 4lbs. (weigh in at 2 p.m. on the day), for £100 a-side and the best purse offered. The contest is to come off on or before Monday, Jan. 27 next, and the donor of the largest purse is to fix the date and make all arrangements for the contest. The purse money is to be divided—75 per cent. to the winner and 25 per cent. to the loser; the "Sporting Life" to appoint referee. In accordance with a clause in the articles of this match for the bantam-weight championship, a meeting was arranged last Thursday for the purpose of selecting the rendezvous. In attendance were Harry Ware, Andrew Tokell, Mr. W. Eccleston (Jolly Jumbo), Jim Styles, etc. Several offers had been made. The best emanated from Mr. George Hardy, who offered a prize of £100 and a magnificent gold and silver belt, value £50, for the contest to be brought off in a large hall in the West-end of London; while another similar prize was forthcoming from the Midlands. These were outbid by a Newcastle gentleman with £150. Harry Ware, acting for a noted Northampton sport, offered £150, on condition that the match should take place at the Corn Exchange, Northampton. After a business-like argument, it appeared likely that both these latter suggestions would be increased; but, as the locality did not give general satisfaction, the North countryman agreed to close with the Northampton offer, if a "tenner" were added, to meet his travelling expenses. Finally, the following addition was made to the articles of agreement:—"The purse of £150 offered by Mr. Walter Page for the contest to be decided at the Corn Exchange, Northampton, be accepted, providing £10 be allowed to Tokell for expenses. In the event of the last-mentioned donor declining the extra £10, the next biggest offer made by Monday next be entertained; the purse money to be deposited with the "Sporting Life" not later than Tuesday, December 24."

JACK ROBERTS v. WILL CURLEY.

FOR THE 9st. CHAMPIONSHIP AND £500 A-SIDE.

A MATCH for the 9st. Championship of England, between Jack Roberts, the present holder of the title, and Will Curley, was made at the "Sporting Life" Office last Wednesday. Ever since Roberts defeated Curley at the National Sporting Club, the Newcastle man has wanted another match. Talk of the same has occupied many months. But the backers of the men have finally brought them together, and their meeting has resulted in a match for £500 a-side. The parties arranged articles of agreement, and then wired to Jimmy Lowes, of Newcastle, stating that they would box at Ginnett's Circus on the same terms he had offered for the match before. Mr. Lowes agreed to the conditions; and they have subscribed their names to the following: Articles of agreement between Jack Roberts, champion 9st. boxer of England, and Will Curley, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, wherein they as principals agree to box fifteen rounds for the championship of England for the 9st. class. It is further agreed that each of the principals shall post a stake of £500 each, to be decided on the issue of the match, and that Mr. Alf Snelling, of London, shall be the stakeholder. One hundred pounds as a first deposit is to be posted with the stakeholder on December 21; one hundred and fifty pounds each on January 15, and the remaining two hundred and fifty pounds to be posted one week before the contest. It is agreed that the contest shall take place at Ginnett's Circus, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Monday evening, Feb. 3, 1902. The referee to be named by the "Sporting Life" of London. The contest to be for the purse offered by James Lowes, of Newcastle. The forfeits of the principals are as a guarantee of appearance, and should either of the principals fail to faithfully abide by these articles to forfeit money posted.

(Signed) JACK ROBERTS.
WILL CURLEY.

AT BIRMINGHAM.

The boxing pavilion of Professor Cullis is located at Monument-road, Birmingham, where it will remain until well on in the New Year. Attached to the booth are, amongst other well-known boxers, Tom Spring (Northampton), Owen Moran, and Charley Simpson (Birmingham). Mr. Cullis intends putting up suitable inducements from time to time, with a view to giving Birmingham lads a chance to show their form.

AT NEWCASTLE.

JOHNSON WHIPS REID.

THE NOVOCASTRIAN WINS EASILY.

WHEN the match between Dick Johnson (Newcastle) and Fred Reid (Southwark) was made, boxing enthusiasts up North were confident of witnessing a show out of the ordinary run of boxing contests. "Tot" Landreth offered the lads a purse to go for, in addition to the stakes; and when they signified their acceptance, he fixed December 18 as the date for the decision of the bout. Both lads went into training; and they were reported to be in the best of condition. Johnson has a good record; and we well remember him meeting Jimmy Brown, of Rotherham, on Christmas Eve before a very small assembly. He boxed well on that occasion, winning inside six rounds. His first contests were stiff ones; and in each he asserted his supremacy in two rounds, defeating in that time J. Slater, J. Barber, and W. Williams. W. Wilson suffered a reverse in three rounds; and J. McGurk, in one. J. Robinson met a similar fate to his predecessors, being beaten in five rounds. Bob Gullen was beaten three times. J. Willis and J. Percival were defeated in four and seven rounds respectively. After winning an 8st. competition at Shields, Johnson settled C. Currie in three rounds; and Bob Wilkinson, the Jarrow boxer, has suffered a reverse at the hands of Johnson twice. A 7st. 12lbs. championship competition, promoted by Jimmy Lowes, was won by Dick, Ernest Brady being defeated in the final. An 8st. 4lbs. competition at Gateshead also fell to the share of Johnson, after which he beat G. Bell, of Newcastle, in six rounds; A. Wood, of Gateshead, for £75, in six rounds; and Sandy Donaldson, of Edinburgh, in five rounds. He met Nimble White at the Percy Cottage Saloon, and won on a foul in two rounds; and Jimmy Brown, of Rotherham, for £130, also lost in six rounds, at the Standard Theatre. After Jim Williams had been beaten in twelve rounds, Johnson won on a foul with Bill Fielder, whilst a fortnight later he again met Fielder, and was then defeated in seven rounds. This contest was decided on Feb. 27, 1899, since when Johnson has not had a contest, though at Gateshead a short time since he knocked out Arthur Wheeler in a four-round trial.

Fred Reid, of Southwark, is 22 years of age, and although he did not commence his career until two years ago he has performed very creditably. He started by winning a 7st. 6lbs. competition at Tottenham; was beaten by Tom Lynch, of Fulham, in six rounds; won an 8st. competition at Greenwich, and then beat Harry Wray, of Lambeth, in two rounds. After this Fred gained a series of victories over Bill Meacock, of Bloomsbury, in four rounds; Jim Perkins, of Lambeth, in three rounds, at the Lambeth School of Arms; and Tom Rippington, of Marlow, in six rounds. Jim Sweeney, of Stratford, defeated Reid in six rounds, and then Ted Goodson, of Haggerston, gained a verdict in six rounds. Jim Selwyn, of Mile End, was defeated in three rounds, and Harry Pateman, of Bow, in four rounds. Paddy Ryan, of Mortlake, was "put out" in four rounds, after which Bill Hough, of Bermondsey, beat Reid in four rounds. Reid beat Bert Norton, of St. James's, in three rounds, and was vanquished by Curley, of Paddington, in six rounds at the Paddington Baths. Bill Lee, of Clerkenwell, was disposed of in two rounds, and Bill Whitelaw in one round. Tom Stephenson, of Gateshead, suffered defeat in four rounds, as did Jack Christian in one round at Wonderland. Reid was runner-up in a 9st. competition at the N.S.C., but at Wonderland he won an 8st. 4lbs. competition, and another at the Surrey Theatre, London. Tom Jamieson, of Wandsworth, and Bill Burrell, of Limehouse, in three rounds, also was his victim. Harry Root, of Wood Green, proved successful in four rounds, and then Jack Christian, of King's Cross, was vanquished in three and a half rounds. A draw of seven rounds with Tom Oulds, of Rotherhithe, preceded Reid's beating Frank Hobson, of Tottenham, in one round. His last contest was with Alf Cook, by whom he was beaten in six rounds. At the weighing-in, which took place at Mr. R. Patrick's, Queen's Head Hotel, Gateshead, on the day of the contest, the Londoner was the heavier by about 1lb.

There was a very large company present; and the Novocastrian proved a firm favourite, the closing transaction being 6 to 4 on. Charlie Beadling officiated as referee, and Harry Snaith as timekeeper. Proceedings were opened with a six-round contest between two

local lads, Coff Benn and Dan Higgins. Directly the gong went, the lads pushed forward, beginning the attack fiercely. Punch for punch all over the ring was the order; and they kept at it until the call of time. The second round was similar; and, gaining the desired opportunity, Higgins put his right on the spot and won. The way was then cleared for the big fight; and loud cheers greeted Johnson when he appeared, accompanied by Charlie Watts, Jack Nelson, and Dido Vardy, while the Londoner's esquires were Ted Wood and the "Bros." Wheeler.

The lads looked very fit, and there was not an ounce of fat on the body of the Novocastrian. The pace was very hot from the word "go"; and Reid opened the ball by sending a hard left on his opponent's dial. Johnson went back. But soon he came again; and, playing well with both hands, he scored fast. Reid proved himself a scientific boxer; but he seemed all at sea, through his rival's forcing tactics. The second round was somewhat similar; and, during a hard rally, the Novocastrian got the right across—and down went Reid. He was up quickly, but only to receive another knock-down blow. Time came to his assistance; and, when the bell went to begin the attack again, he had not quite recovered. So the sponge went up.

THE POLYTECHNIC B.C.

CLUB COMPETITIONS.

THE attendance at the headquarters of the Polytechnic Amateur Boxing Club—one of the best in England—in Regent-street, was hardly up to the mark last Tuesday, when the club competitions were staged. If not overwhelmingly big, the gathering was hearty. We have seen larger assemblies; but we have seen none more enthusiastic. The entertainment was confined solely to the club competitions—five weights—for which twenty-two active and athletic members sent in their names. This number was eventually reduced to fourteen, despite which the show ran on until nearly eleven o'clock, when the spectators departed well pleased with the show. The officials were: Judges, Messrs. Geo. Sykes, R. K. Gunn, T. Goodwin, K. A. Jones, F. G. Edmunds, and I. Cohen; M.C., genial Billy Dart; and hon. secretary, Mr. G. A. Tarrant; while Jerry Driscoll and Arthur Westley saw to the wants of the boxers.

7st. 12lbs. Competition.—J. Giles beat A. Murray; H. Marsden, a bye. Final: Marsden beat Giles.—The last-named was longer in the reach; and he had an advantage in height. But his rival plodded merrily along, fighting his man in every corner of the ring. The second round was a hot go, both lads trying all they knew. But Marsden always was the stronger; and, forcing the work, he had his rival in difficulties half-way through the round, when the officials stopped the bout and returned Marsden as victor.

8st. 4lbs. Competition.—W. Wiggetts beat F. Tredgill; A. Harrop, a bye. Final: Wiggetts beat Harrop.—This was one of the bouts of the night; from start to finish it was fought hotly. Harrop was the first to show in front, but a hard right swing sent him down; and, from that point, he had no rest. Wiggetts forced him all over the square; and Harrop was defeated before the second round closed.

9st. Competition.—F. Poole beat C. Morris; T. Gibbs, a bye. Final: Gibbs beat Poole.—The last-named had a very hard contest in the first series; and this told the usual tale. Acting on the advice of his seconds, Gibbs forced his man all over the arena. Coming up for the second time, the lads immediately joined in one long rally; and, before the round ended, Poole was decisively beaten, the bout being stopped.

10st. Competition.—F. J. McCole beat F. Krenn; B. A. Thaine, a bye. Final: McCole beat Thaine.—The opening round was all in favour of the first-named. But, going great guns in the next, Thaine drew level. The last round was hotly contested. Half-way through, McCole sent his man down and won.

Heavy-weight Competition.—W. Bishop beat J. Thomas.—Bishop, with an advantage in the matter of reach, landed some stinging blows, Thomas being receiver-general until he got to close quarters. Here he put in some hard swings on the head. The second proved to be the last. Bishop staggered his man with a left upper-cut, and, giving him no rest, he had Thomas beaten in the second minute.

AT THE CANTERBURY.

A GOOD COMPETITION.

AN EASY WIN FOR KENDRICK.

MR. FRED MILLER, the popular and energetic manager of the Canterbury Music Hall, Westminster-bridge-road, last week staged an 8st. 4lbs. boxing competition for the amusement and instruction of his patrons. Athletic displays of all kinds delight the South London public; and every kind of muscular exhibition is thoroughly appreciated by the patrons of the music-hall there, as elsewhere. Wrestling, boxing, ball-punching, and weight-lifting have in turn been applauded by the patrons of the Canterbury; and last week's special boxing competition was equally popular. £10 10s. being offered in prizes among eight of the best bantam-weight boxers; and one bout was decided each night. Besides this, George Corfield (Sheffield) and George Butler (Mile End) sparred a scientific three rounds. On Tuesday, however, Butler fell ill; and his place was taken by Sailor Richardson (Lambeth), who proved a good deputy. The competition started on Monday evening, Mr. David Cowis acting as M.C., Mr. R. Watson as referee, Messrs. Harry Cooper and Barney Hyams as judges, and Mr. Gershon Harris as timekeeper. Jack Lamb (Lambeth) was opposed by Dave Morbin (Walworth); and a very hot go was witnessed. After the judges had disagreed, the referee's fiat was "Morbin." On Tuesday Jack Guyons (Clerkenwell) and G. McCarthy (Spitalfields) took the centre. Directly "Time" was called the combatants left their seats; and no sooner were they face to face than bang went the left hand with force and precision on the dial, varied by right body blows which left a marked impression. These visitations did not deter the rivals, who fought all the harder, driving each other to the ropes and fighting there with a determination to terminate the business with one fell swoop. This was easier than it looked; for both men disputed every inch of ground at a great pace. In this way the competition continued, fortune favouring first one and then the other. The rounds were very similar in character; the spectators cheered at the proper time and in the proper place, showing that they knew something of the game. Finally, the end came with a verdict in favour of Guyons, who in the last round played with his opponent, driving him with ease and rapidity all over the ring. McCarthy persevered pluckily, but Guyons won easily.

There was a very large attendance on Wednesday evening; and loud applause greeted the boxers when they appeared. The third heat of the competition was decided, Jem Kendrick (Hackney) proving victorious over George Collins (Bloomsbury).—No time was lost in getting together. Some clever manoeuvring and exchanges were witnessed; and brief rallies were frequent. Half-arm work in the busiest fashion was indulged in by both; also sharp leading off with the left hand and at close quarters. Finally the decision went to Kendrick. Jack Fitzpatrick (Canning Town), who was entitled to a bye, sparred three good rounds with Jack Lamb (Lambeth); and he had to go all the way to hold his own with his smaller opponent, who, as on Monday, boxed very gamely.

The semi-finals were decided on Thursday evening, a large company witnessing the bouts. The audience was not slow in bestowing well-merited applause during the contests. After Corfield and Richardson had sparred three very scientific rounds, the first pair for the competition—Jem Kendrick and Jack Guyons—took up their positions for the bout. The last-named forced the pace. Using the dexter hand to advantage, he led on points when the round closed. The next meeting was a more level one, Kendrick gradually drawing up. The final round was all in his favour; and, scoring rapidly, he wiped off arrears and did sufficient to gain the award. Dave Morbin and Jack Fitzpatrick were the next pair to do battle; and a very fine contest was seen. The betting was evens; and Harry Jacobs, of Wonderland, a real good judge, chose Fitz for his money. The opening round was all in favour of Fitz, whose sharp two-handed hitting told greatly in his favour. In round two, Morbin, who had been taking matters easily, using his right, sent Fitz staggering to the ropes. Before the round ended he twice repeated the blow, but without doing any damage. The last round was fought out to the bitter end, Jack using both hands to gain points. Eventually, the judges disagreed; and the referee declared in favour of Morbin.

There was an exceptionally large attendance on Friday evening to witness the final (four rounds) of the competition between Jem Kendrick, of Hackney, and Dave Morbin, of Walworth, the audience, a good many of whom had witnessed the earlier stages of the competition, evidently expecting to see a splendid wind-up; and they were in no way disappointed. As in the earlier part of the week, George Corfield and Sailor Richardson opened the ball with a clever three-round exhibition, which received well-merited applause at the close. Then the contestants for the final were ushered in, and met with a right royal reception. Little time was cut to waste before the lads faced each other, when the Hackney youth set the pace, scoring well with both hands on the face and body. Dave occasionally got home with a straight left, but Kendrick was clearly the better man. He was soon at work again in the second, and scoring the faster was well a-head when they retired to their corners. Coming up for the last round, the Walworth lad seemed to brighten up a bit, and put in a few good shots; but Kendrick was much too clever for him, and had a little to spare when he received the judge's verdict. The announcement that the management would give a substantial prize for the losers was received with acclamation by the large audience.

AT TED HOLLIER'S.

TED HOLLIER'S saloon, in Rosemary-road, Peckham, was crowded last Thursday evening, when a contest was decided between Arthur Lippie and Fred Chesney. During the evening Tom Passfield v. Fred Cole, Fred Smith v. Ted Spokes showed their skill in exhibition bouts. The officials were:—Referee and timekeeper, Frank Scott; judges, Sho. Dackham and Fred Allen; M.C., Bill Fielder.

6st. 6lbs. Competition.—Final Bout: Mat Smith (Walworth) beat Ernie Mills (Camberwell).—They set about one another in fine style for the first two meetings. There was little in it. In their next essay Smith did best, and received the award.

Six-round Contest.—Sam Taylor (Hatcham) beat Bill Darby (Bermondsey).—A good battle took place between this couple, and for three rounds there was little in it. Taylor then asserted his supremacy, the referee stopping the contest half-way through the fifth meeting, and giving his decision to Taylor.

Four-round Contest.—Bill Wright (Camberwell) beat Jem Clark (Bloomsbury).—Wright, who was the heavier, forced the exchanges. Clark a long way from idle. They progressed in the same style throughout, Wright getting the verdict at the close.

Eight-round Contest.—Arthur Lippie (Bermondsey) beat Fred Chesney (Walworth).—By mutual agreement this was reduced from twelve rounds to eight. Lippie was the first to get to work, and slung his left home on the neck. Chesney had a turn at the body, and heavy exchanges ensued. The work was of the same character in the second and third meetings. Commencing for the fourth time, Lippie got home on the Walworth man's neck, and sent him to the ropes. He would not be denied, and persevered till call of "Time!" Starting for the fifth round, Lippie, seeing he had things his own way, set about Chesney; and half-way through, the Walworth lad's seconds, seeing he had no chance, gave in for him, the loser receiving a rare ovation at the close. A good night's sport terminated at a late hour.

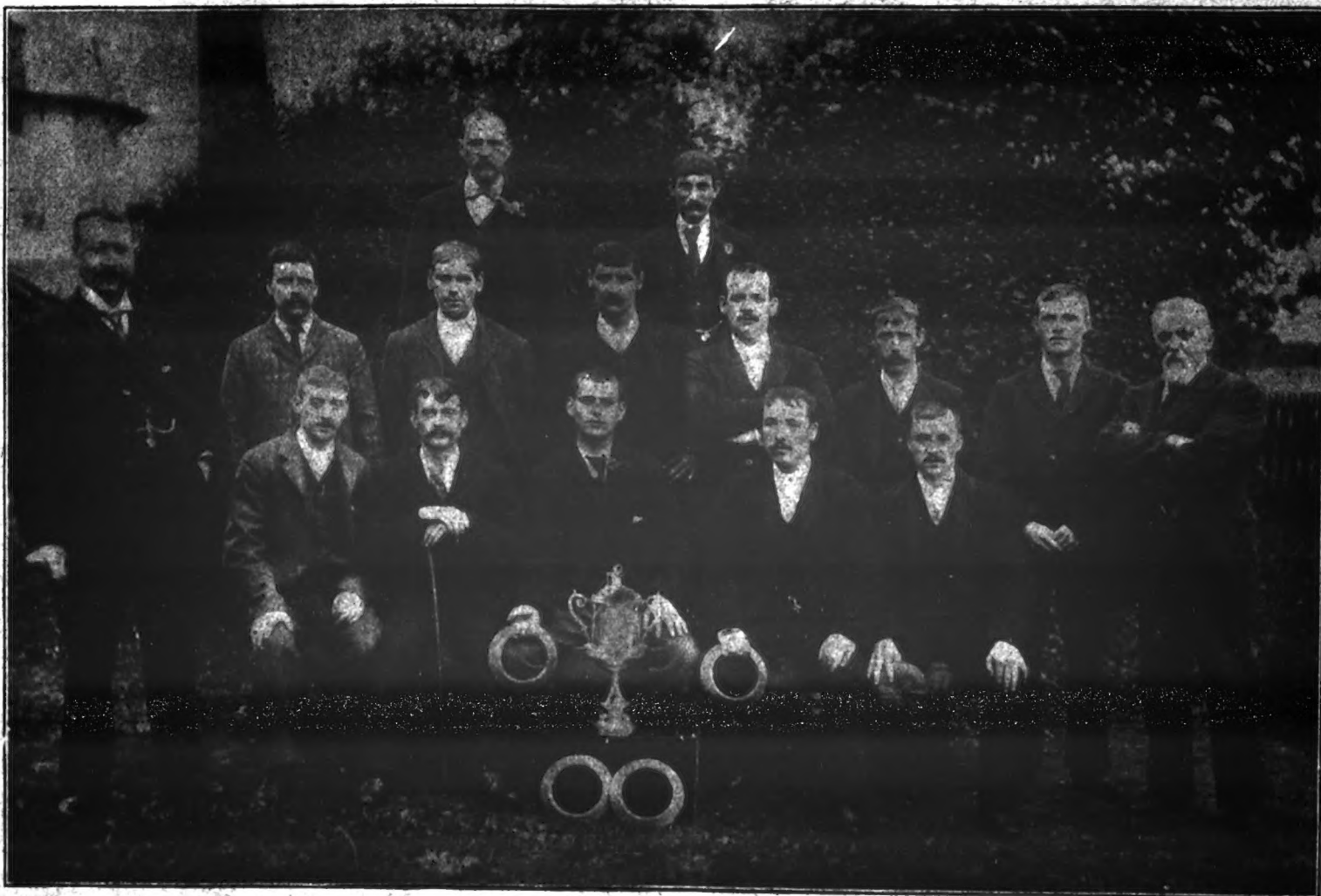
BEN HARRIS EXPLAINS.

BEN HARRIS called at THE MIRROR OF LIFE office to inform us that what we stated with reference to the silver medal given at the Bedford lately was incorrect. When our representative was refereeing the ball-punching at the Bedford the other day, and presenting the prizes on Friday evening, he was asked by the manager (Mr. Victor) to also present a silver medal to a lad in connection with the boxing contest put up with Charles Harris, the 3st. 5lbs. champion. Ben Harris, it was said, had promised the lad a medal; and, as he failed to act according to his promise, the management themselves presented the trophy. This was the case as put to us and by us. Now, Ben states that this was wrong. He informs us that he said that, when he again appeared at the Bedford, he would give the youngster a silver medal, or send it to the manager. Harris said he paid for the prize. Mr. Victor said the management gave it; and our representative took the manager's word for it. We are pleased that Ben has come forward to clear the matter up. Otherwise many might have thought the champion M.C. was not a man of his word—that he did not act up to his undertakings.



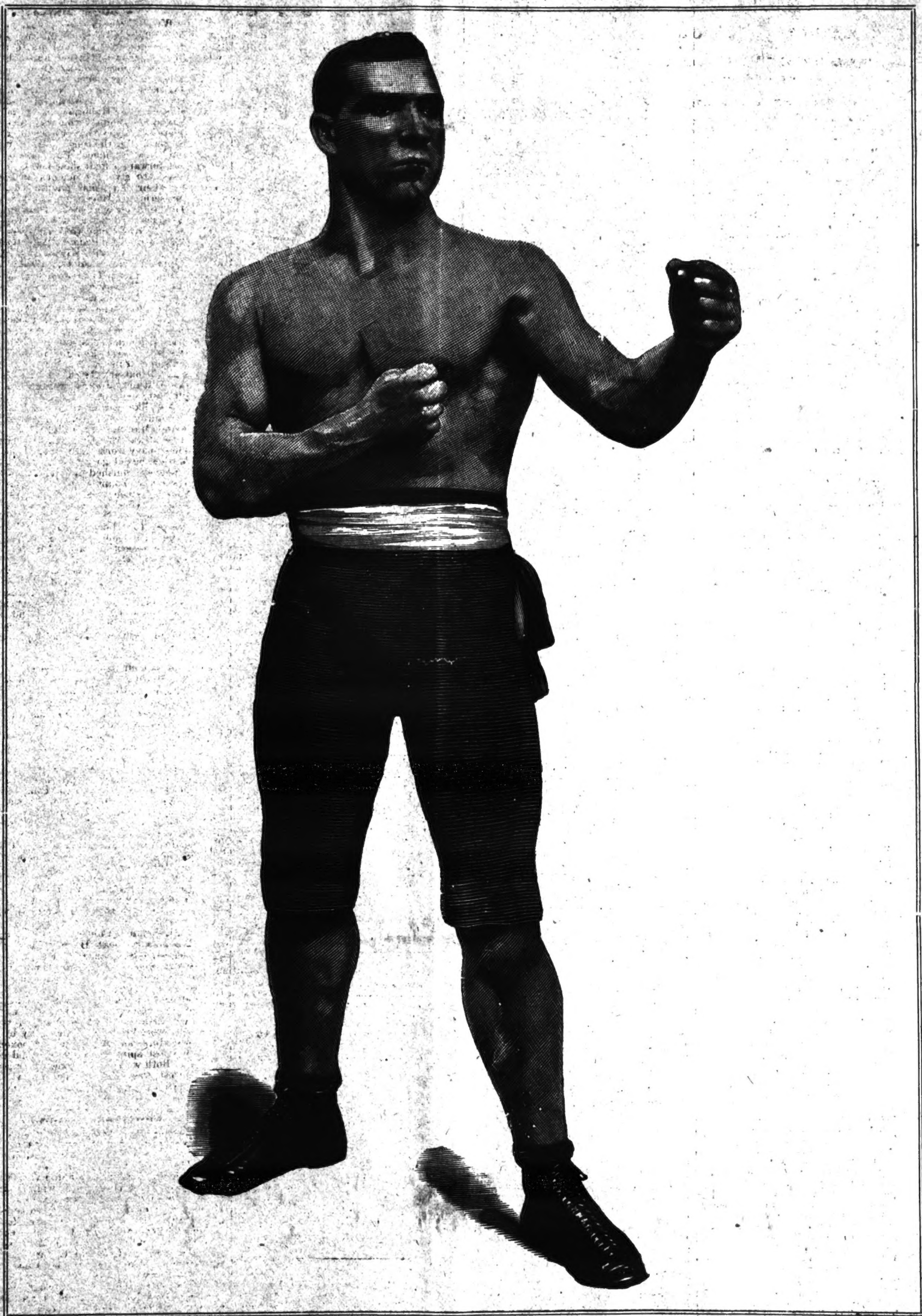
SOME NEWCASTLE SPORTSMEN,

Including Jack O'Brien, Will Curley, Tom Murphy, James Curley, Charley Coulthard, the late Prof. Lowry and Dan McDermott.



A GROUP OF NOTED SPORTS,

Who are Members of the Mount Pleasant Quoit Club.



TOM SHARKEY,

Of America, the ex-Sailor Lad, who wishes to meet James J. Jeffries for the Championship of the World.

AT THE ATHENÆUM HALL.

AMERICA v. AFRICA.

FRANK HOWARD'S SPLENDID ENTERTAINMENT.

MALONEY WHIPS ROBERTS.

EVER since Jim Roberts, accompanied by his manager and backer, Fred Hilliard, came over-sea to this country, interest in him as been well sustained in sporting circles. His first call on reaching London was at the offices of *THE MIRROR OF LIFE*; and a conversation took place which we reported at the time. Roberts has fought for his Queen and country. He has also succeeded in winning the light-weight championship of South Africa. Born in the colliery town of Brynmawr, South Wales, Roberts left this country at an early age for "down South," where he had many adventures and some success.

Maloney's record has appeared in *THE MIRROR*; and, since returning from America, he has more than held his own with good second-class London lads. His last contest—prior to meeting Roberts—took place nearly a month ago, when (at the N.S.C.) he proved successful over Pyte. Saunders, the ex-light weight champion of the Army and Navy. Roberts has only had one contest in this country; and in that he defeated Alf. Bannister at the New Adelphi Club, in 12 rounds. For the contest last Wednesday Maloney trained at the White Swan, Holcot, Northamptonshire, in company with Alf. Rodway (matched with Bill Griffiths); Terry ("Kid") McCormack—who fought a draw with Harry Slough, of Leicester; Harry Paul, who was defeated on points by Bill Lampshire; and Dave Job, now matched with Jack Walker. Under the care of Joe Smith and Eddy Pearce, Roberts took his breathings at the Red Lion, Barnes, being supervised by his manager, Fred Hilliard, with the heavy-weight South African, Jack Crow, as trainer. He was perfectly satisfied with his quarters; he had trained there before, when he fought Alf. Bannister.

Considerable interest was shown in the match. To keep the rough element out of the hall, Frank Howard, by the express wish of some well-known members of the N.S.C., set a dollar a head as the minimum price of admission. This had the desired effect; and everybody present was not only comfortable but was enabled in every way to appreciate the enterprise of the promoter. Frank has been connected with sport for a considerable number of years; and he has proved himself capable of conducting many a fictitious entertainment in the best possible style. As an M.C., he has shown himself one of the best; without a superior, indeed, in the elocution line. Those who took tickets knew that the big fight would not come on until late; so they did not hurry themselves. Thus there was only a small number present when a start was made. The audience gradually increased, however; and, by the time Roberts and Maloney entered the ring, there was a good house.

Proceedings were opened with an eight-round contest, in which Jack Guyons (of Clerkenwell) beat George Cohen (of Birmingham). The Londoner was taller; but there was nothing between the pair in the matter of weight. Guyons has improved considerably of late; and on the previous evening he had defeated George McCarthy at the Canterbury Music-hall. Using a very straight left, Guyons sent it time after time flush on his opponent's face. He seemed waiting for an opportunity to send the right home, too. Cohen did his best. But he was meeting a better man; and, during the second round, the Londoner sent a right jab on the jaw, and down went Cohen with a thud. He lay flat without moving for ten seconds, when his seconds lifted him up and carried him to his corner. After a couple of minutes had passed, he came to; and he was greeted by an extra long round of applause, another of which went forth as the M.C. said "Guyons wins."—Fred Fairchild, of Stratford, beat Bill Nicholson, of Drury-lane. Both these lads possess very long reaches; and some sharp, if light exchanges took place. First one and then the other showed in front; but Nicholson held the lead when they retired. The second round was similar to the first; and Nicholson had none the worst of the points, when he received a hard blow on the mark and was sent down. He was unable to rise in the stipulated time; and he was counted out.—Digger Stanley, of Fulham, and Jim Denhardt, of Woolwich, took the ring for a four-round trial. The Digger can be matched against anybody at 7st. 4lbs. to 7st. 8lbs. Here is a chance for the Welsh "Kid," Terry McCormack,

Harry Slough, Matt Precious or Harry McDermott. Although at a disadvantage as regards weight, he held his own in a sharp and scientific bout with a heavier man. Another fine display was seen when Joe Kenny, of Hammer-smith, and Wag Hampton, of Finsbury, sparred four rounds, both lads receiving a well-merited round of cheers at the close. Mr. T. Parkes acted as referee; Harry Bryant as timekeeper; and Frank Howard M.C.; while for the big fight Mr. Ed. Plummer officiated as the presiding official; the seconds were Bill Baxter, Jack Scales and Frank Lowry.

After a short interval for refreshments, the lads entered the ring to battle for the side stake and the purse put up by Frank. Immediately they stepped into the arena, or rather before, some of those present tried to open the market; but very little was done—5 to 4 on Maloney being offered. Finally, Barney Shepherd had a bet of an even £5; and, after the rules had been read, the lads shook hands and went to their seats. Maloney was looked after by his brother Fred, Bill Baxter, Barney Shepherd and Eddy Pearce, his trainer; while in Roberts' corner were his trainer (Jack Crow), Joe Kenny and Jack Scales.

Round 1.—Both men crouched on sparring; and Maloney's advantage in height was not apparent to everyone. Roberts set to work trying the right, at the same time keeping his left ready and using it whenever opportunity offered. However he evidently needed the excitement of a sharp interchange of blows to warm him up. For a few seconds they kept moving slowly to and fro, each anxious to find the other napping. The Afrikaner got home heavily on the side of the head as time was called. Evens offered on Roberts.

Round 2.—Directly time was called the lads rushed at each other; but no damage was done, both being too eager to take advantage of any opening that occurred. On breaking away, they again clinched; but Roberts was very crafty, eluding all the American's attempts to reach the point. However, the Welsh-African athlete was caught napping at last, being sent down with a hard right swing—the effects of which he never got over. Rising, Roberts played the game. Guarding the point, he lasted the round.

Round 3.—A little refreshed by the minute's interval, Roberts went strong for nearly half a minute. Then he was forced right round the ring, covering the point with both hands. Roberts was very game; and, although swamped with "ruby," he lasted until the word went forth to cease hostilities, when 25 to 1 was offered on the American.

Round 4.—Maloney immediately made play; and, during a sharp rally, he sent Roberts to the boards. Rising quickly, the South African swung a left on his rival's cheek, causing him to stagger back. Maloney went fiercely to work now. He hit his opponent all over the ring, spitting blood at every other blow; and, before the round ended he sent him down again. 50 to 1 was offered on Maloney.

Round 5.—Roberts is a very crafty boxer; and, while guarding the point, still he kept plugging Maloney with right and left on the throat, twice trying a hard uppercut. Maloney was very busy; but, towards the end, Roberts scored well with both hands on the body and was rallying fine.

Round 6.—Both lads were too eager at the outset to do any serious damage; and Roberts was first, with a hard, straight left. Then they fought in every corner of the ring. In a neutral corner Roberts clinched; and his rival turned his attention to the African's kidneys. On breaking away, one under the heart sent Roberts to the floor again. Like a real good general, he took the count, rising as nine seconds was called; and, after receiving two punches again, he took another count (eight seconds this time), and then clinched until corners was called.

Round 7.—Still Roberts played possum, clinching; but Maloney played hard on the kidneys when he did so. It was marvellous, considering the punishment he had received, that the Southerner could stand. But, like a lion at bay, he turned and faced his conqueror. A rally ensued; and Roberts claimed a foul for being hit low. Co siderable excitement was evident; and, thinking he had been given the award, Maloney got under the ropes. He was immediately pulled back by the referee. Plummer's orders were "Fight on"; but as he gave them time was called.

Round 8.—Roberts came up again for about a quarter of a minute; but, sending both right and left on the head, Maloney sent him staggering all over the ring. Roberts covered the point again, going round the ring. Then, as Maloney was pasting him upon the ropes, the referee stopped the bout, declaring Maloney the winner. Before the bout started, Pat Daly offered to meet the winner for any amount of money.

AT EAST HAM.

BILL MORTIMER'S SHOW.

THE famous boxer, Bill Mortimer, is doing his best to make boxing popular in East Ham; and last Thursday there was a large attendance at the Public Hall, when another fictitious entertainment was staged. The hall is situated within easy distance of London; and it is no wonder that many well-known boxers and patrons of the sport were to be seen at the ring side. The venue is easily reached by train from either Liverpool or Fenchurch-street stations; by bus from the Bank to Romford and thence to the doors by the electric trams. It can also be arrived at by tram from Aldgate to Stratford, another tram to Manor Park and the electric to the Hall. Each bout last Thursday was keenly contested, receiving its just measure of applause; and those present were all well pleased with the entertainment. Proceedings opened with an exhibition bout between Albert Mortimer (Upton Park) and Alf Darten (Upton Park). The brothers Bill and Tom Bolton, of St. George's, followed, and put up a very creditable set-to. The Brothers Pickard, Ernie and Tom, boxed and wrestled three rounds. There was also further exhibition boxing by E. Wakling (Upton Park), George Alexander and G. Clements.

Six-round Contest.—Bob McGuinness (Stratford) beat Ernie Miles (Bethnal Green).—Proceedings opened lively, both showing a knowledge of the business, and sparring in orthodox fashion for an opening. The second round had not been long in progress when McGuinness staggered his opponent with a hard right jab, but Miles hung on until the call of time. The third meeting was productive of some exciting rallies, and Miles sent his opponent down, time alone saving him from being counted out. By the interval Mac had recuperated, and held his own, the fifth round being decidedly in his favour. At the close the judges had no difficulty in declaring McGuinness the winner.—Bert Chamberlain (Stratford) beat S. Munson (Upton Park).—The last-named had an advantage in height and reach; but he was a few pounds the lighter of the twain. The Stratfordite took matters very easily, being content to hold his own in the initial meeting. In the next bout, he livened up, getting the better of a sharp and interesting passage of arms; and, after sending his man all over the ring, he had him in difficulties as time was called. Starting to work directly matters were resumed in No. 3, Bert soon had his man in trouble; but Munson hung on until the bout was stopped in favour of Chamberlain.

Eight-round Contest.—Joe Barker (Stratford) beat Denny Shea (Stratford).—Directly time was called very little time was wasted in sparring. Barker at once becoming the aggressor, and using both hands with effect. He repeatedly sent his left on the face, which quickly began to leave marks of the visitations, and at the end of the opening round Barker possessed a good lead. Continuing for the second time Denny showed a slight improvement, and during some very hot exchanges held his own. In the two succeeding meetings Barker drove his adversary all over the ring, and scored well. The Irish lad showed great gameness, and when they went to their respective corners both were tired. Early in the fifth round Shea injured his right arm. Seeing his condition, his opponent gave him no rest, but he failed to bring the bout to a close until the full number of rounds had been contested.

AT ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THE final bout of the 6st. 10lbs. novices' competition decided at the Seven Stars School of Arms, Hurst Brook, Ashton-under-Lyne, on Tuesday evening, was contested by Hardy and Davies, both of Ashton. The lads boxed four rounds of two minutes' duration, and at the start Davies forced the exchanges, and fought his man in every corner of the ring. He tired before the round closed, and his opponent scored fast until the call of time arrived. Immediately the sound to arms again went forth, Hardy banged the left on the dial, and more than held his own in a series of rallies. The last two rounds were sternly fought out, and finally Hardy gained the award.

THE LANSDOWNE B. AND A.C.

MESSRS. C. ELLETT AND H. BENSON, instructors to the Lansdowne B. and A.C., would like to receive entries for a 7st. 10lb. competition, to take place on Tuesday, January 7, the winner to receive a very handsome marble clock, and the runner-up a silver cup under glass shade. Entries to be sent to C. Ellett, 9, Durant-street, Bethnal Green, with a fee of 1s., which will be returned to all the lads who actually compete.

HABBIJAM'S ENTERTAINMENT.

A GOOD DISPLAY.

WITH Christmas within easy distance, it is a hard matter to fill any place of entertainment; but visitors to the old place in Newman-street know they can always witness boxing there by men who who have been tried in many a stubborn contest. No sparring for time, wind, or cutting-up stakes is allowed at the Habbijam emporium; and boxing exponents who try their skill there well know that it is a case of "fight or get out of the ring." With Yuletide only a week hence, Bob was asked to put forward a final show before the holidays; to give his patrons an appetite for their Christmas pudding, and also for serious business in the New Year. The show staged last Thursday was satisfactory in every way to everybody. Mr. J. Hurst officiated as referee. Mr. E. Zerega timekeeper, Bob Habbijam as M.C., and Bill Baxter and Arthur Wilkinson the seconds. Details:—

There was a Three-round Trial: Sam Harper (Bloomsbury) v. George Brooks (Oxford), in which the lad from "the educational department" held his own with his more experienced opponent in a rattling three-round bout.

In six-round contests Jumbo King (Lambeth) beat George Marlow (Kennington).—This was a slashing affair from the outset. Reciprocating Marlow's heavy attack, Jumbo returned the compliment, and for a minute the affair looked like ending at once. With little diminution in the pace they finished the round, Marlow then being down. Next time it was the same, King putting in some heavy work and taking a long lead. Marlow boxed gamely, but in the third round was finished off.—Alf Lock (Walworth) beat Young Spooney (Lambeth).—Spooney stood well over the Walworth youth. After a short spar the smaller youth drove the left twice on the mouth, but Lock ended the initial stage with some telling blows, and did further execution in the ensuing meeting with left and right on the head. After the interval Spooney did slightly better. The right hand of both the boys was much in evidence during the succeeding rounds, but Lock showed most cleverness in the fifth and sixth rounds. He did most of the leading, and got past his rival's guard on many occasions. The Walworth youth tried a succession of rights on the side of the head without any of the desired results. The award at the close went as above.

Eight-round Contest.—Jack Lamb (Lambeth) beat Johnny Hughes (Bloomsbury).—The first-named had been boxing during the day at the N.S.C., but seemed as fresh and lively as ever. Hughes did not get home so often as his rival in the opening rounds, but when he landed it was with effect, shaking his man and compensating for all that he had done. In the fourth round Hughes' blows began to tell a tale, and he followed a heavy left on the mark with three strong rights on the dial that were only a trifle short of ending the battle. Hughes continued to deal out very heavy punishment, but Lamb continued to box with judgment, meeting his man with left and right, and scoring well. Try as he would Hughes failed to get the right on the point, and at the close Lamb obtained the award.

Ten-round Contest.—Jim Harper (Bloomsbury) beat Harry Clark (Paddington).—So keen were they, as well as determined, and so closely matched, that at the end of the third round they were as level as possible. It was a splendid contest throughout, both putting all their weight behind their blows, but with nothing to favour either of them. They were cheered on their way by the spectators, and until the end boxed in the most spirited and determined manner. Both were very strong, and a grand contest was seen, Harper gaining the award.

GRIFFITHS v. RODWAY.

Articles of agreement have been entered into between Bill Griffiths, of New Tredegar, and Alf Rodway, of Ebbw Vale, whereby they agree to box the best of twenty rounds (two minutes a round with one minute's rest), under the Marquis of Queensberry rules, for a side stake of £50 (fifty sovereigns) a-side. The contest was to take place at Brynmawr, South Wales, on December 24; the men to be in the ring at 7.30 p.m. The takings are to be divided—75 per cent. to the winner and 25 per cent. to the loser, after all expenses are paid. First deposits of £5 were placed in the hands of *THE MIRROR OF LIFE*; second deposits of £20 were paid on November 30; and the final deposit, £25 a-side, was in on December 14. The editor of *THE MIRROR OF LIFE* is to act as stakeholder; to furnish the gloves and to appoint the referee. [Received £50.—Editor *THE MIRROR OF LIFE*.]

AT WEST HARTLEPOOL.

POWELL v. HALEY for £70.

DRAWN BATTLE.

LOVERS of sport in this north-country seaside town are well catered for by Bob Mottram and Ike Carter, who have purchased the Circus, in Lynn-street. Until a few months ago the West Hartlepool Gymnasium was headed by Archie McArthur, Mottram and Carter; but now that the two latter have bought the Circus Archie assists them as far as possible. The best sport in the town, he is also the most respected in Hartlepool, and willing to go anywhere to witness any contest of skill and endurance. He told us that he went to Liverpool when Jack O'Brien met Yank Kenny, and marvelled at the multitude present. Nearly 4,000 people were present; and as the prices ranged from 2s. to £2 2s., the promoter must have had a good return for his £200 purse. Odds of 7 to 4 were bet on Kenny, but his tactics did not meet with everybody's approval. O'Brien went so well that before the second meeting ended 2 to 1 was laid on the Philadelphia. Kenny in the second round grasped O'Brien round the neck, and, placing his big hand on the forehead, tried to force him back. He repeatedly clinched, and gave the referee plenty of work. In every round he had to be separated from his opponent, being in holds time after time. Repeated cautions had no effect, and finally the referee was compelled to disqualify Kenny. Archie also went to Newcastle to witness the contest between Charlie McKeever and Jack Palmer, and described the contest as disgraceful. Hold and hit was the order; and they clinched and fought in anything but a civilised manner. It was more of a catch-as-catch-can wrestling match than a scientific boxing contest; and they were on the floor longer than they were upon their feet. Palmer was the worst and in London would not be allowed in the arena. As told by the Hartlepoolian, the bout resembled the style of Tom Broderick, of New York, at Wonderland. They were given every opportunity to box properly, but as they would not do so they were both disqualified. Mr. Humphreys, who manages McKeever, was presented with a casket by Palmer; but as the bucket was full of water Ted received plenty, maybe too much, of liquid refreshment. The water we t all over him and splashed everybody in the corner. It is not surprising, considering how matters were carried on, that McKeever states he will meet Palmer again, but only in London. Archie asked the representative of THE MIRROR OF LIFE how he liked the journey from London, and mentioned the time it took to reach Liverpool on the occasion of the big fight. Due there at three o'clock, they did not arrive until half-past seven. They crawled and crawled along, and it was owing to the snowstorm that they were blocked. Archie had intended to win a small pile over O'Brien; and it was due to being late that he did not have a bet, and had hard work to get a seat. The two lads who contested the 20 rounds last Saturday had signed articles to compete for £25 a-side, and accepted the £20 purse offered by Mottram and Carter; the contest to take place at the Circus, Lynn-street. Both the lads have good records in the North, and met once before for £25 a-side, at the Athletic Club's assault-at-arms, at "The House that Jack Built," near Lynn-street, West Hartlepool. A very hard bout ensued, and the referee was obliged to stop the contest and declare Haley the winner in the eighth round. Powell started boxing about two years ago, when he won an 8st. 4lbs. competition. Was defeated in the final of another 8st. 4lbs. competition by Patsy Haley, at Stockton; but turned the tables in the final bout of another competition. He defeated R. Cockfield in six and seven rounds; won a bantam-weight competition at Stockton, beat Spot Handley in seven rounds, beat MacPherson in final of 8st. 4lbs. competition, was beaten by Patsy Haley in nine rounds, and defeated Butler of Sheffield, in 12 and 20 rounds. Haley has been boxing nearly three years; and, after winning a bantam-weight competition, was defeated by "Sack" Powell in the final of another, beat Powell in nine rounds, beat H. Kennedy in 4 rounds, beat Jack Tait in 12 rounds, beat Cockney Cohen in 12 rounds, Willie Gill, of Liverpool, in 13 rounds, Mat Pearson in 4 rounds; and two weeks ago was defeated by Dot Elder in 12 rounds at Ginnett's Circus, Newcastle. Both lads trained for the event, Powell at Seaton Carrow, under the care of Victor Leyton, while Haley took his breathings at Redcar, under the direction of Peter Smith. Both lads looked well, though Haley looked a shade too fine to last out a punishing encounter. Both lads are well known,

and liked, in the town, and it was no wonder to find a good house, a large number of Stockton sports attending, and though their lad did not gain the desired honours they witnessed a splendid night's sport, and were well repaid for their trouble and expense. The bouts that preceded the contest were all well fought out, and the night's sport proved the best ever seen in West Hartlepool. An early start was made, and at a quarter to eight the first pair were told to get ready, and a few minutes later C. O'Connor and Thomas Moore, two local lads, took the centre for a four-round contest. The lads looked very determined, and a close bout ensued from the word "go!" The Irishman went in to do or die, and swung his arms and fists round his opponent's neck and dial time after time. Moore seemed to be in no hurry, but when he returned the compliment did so by sending a heavy left straight on the dial. The boxing was very hard, and time after time they staggered from the effects of the blows. In the final bout they fought for all they were worth, and the presiding official ordered another round. The lad from Ould Ireland went for all he was worth in the last two minutes, and at the end was declared the winner. The next pair were Jack Galbraith, of West Hartlepool, and Anthony Hare, of the same locality, and they were announced for a four-round contest. Anthony was taller and heavier, but "Jock" went off at a quick rate, and in spite of his opponent's efforts took the lead, and a very hard bout took place. They punched as hard as they could, and Hare stood it until the close of the third round, when nature deserted him, and he retired. As soon as they vacated the ring their places were taken by Sam Mottram (West Hartlepool) and Jack Hetherington (Stockton), for an eight-round contest. Feather-weight boxers they were, but tall for the weight, Mottram standing over his rival. It is said that Sam is only 15 years of age, and though only in the feather-weight division, is about 6 ft. in height. Both were cautious, and sparred for an opening, neither lad caring to give the other the slightest advantage. The second and third rounds were evenly contested, the lads fighting each other in every corner of the ring. Until the end of the journey they gave punch for punch, and finally they were upon even terms when the award went forth—a "draw." The succeeding item on the programme was a four-round contest between Scotty Bowman, of West Hartlepool, and Jim Pearce, of Old Hartlepool. The last-named looked taller and heavier than his opponent, but Scotty was much the more experienced of the twain. Jim did not take advantage of any openings that occurred, but chanced his luck in the endeavour to out his man. He kept this up during the succeeding meeting, when Scotty planted a blow under the heart that laid his opponent low, and won.

TWENTY-ROUND CONTEST FOR £70.

"Sack" Powell (West Hartlepool) v. Patsy Haley (Stockton).—The local youth was seconded by Victor Leyton (his trainer), Bob Storer, and William Cox, his rival having his cousin, Billy Cullen, Peter MacGann, and his trainer, Peter Smith. Directly the word to advance was given Powell forced the exchanges, and Haley seemed content to act on the defensive, the local man scoring fast in this and the succeeding meetings. Haley now and again woke up, but these were only flashes in the pan and in each round until the seventh Haley let his opponent add to a long lead. In the seventh round, for the first time he woke up, and, going well, began to wipe off some of the arrears, but the extra exertion on Haley's part did not last long. A cut on his nose had been re-opened, and the thin stream of claret was gradually telling its tale. The eighth and ninth rounds were evenly contested, and in the next two Haley had none the worst of the exchanges. Before the end of the eleventh round Powell went weak, and Haley forced the work, and began to show his true form. He forced his rival round the ring, and sent him to the boards, nine seconds elapsing before he arose, just before time was called. In the next bout a hard rally ensued, and Powell went down, while his opponent fell over him. Though weak, Powell kept using both hands, but Haley was the stronger, and forced him all over the ring. In the fifteenth round the local youth came on the scene like a meteor, but the effort failed to last over the next meeting. Using both hands, the Stockton lad went after Sack, and with two hard body blows sent him to the boards, where he lay for six seconds. The succeeding rounds were all in favour of Haley, who forced the pace, Powell's face showing traces of the severe work.

The last round saw both hard at work, and when time was called they could not be separated, and the end of an exceedingly hard battle was "a draw." Mr. R. Josephs (THE MIRROR OF LIFE) officiated as referee, Alec Adamson as timekeeper, while one of the genial promoters, R. Mottram, acted as M.C., with Ike in the arduous position of money-taker. The best of order was maintained, and, as usual, there were a number of our protectors present in case of accidents.

AT WOOLWICH.

A DISAPPOINTING CONTEST.

THE Drill Hall, Beresford-street, was extra well filled last Saturday, when the usual boxing entertainment was staged. The tit-bit of the evening was a special international contest between Ben Taylor, the Woolwich Infant, and "Sandy" Ferguson, of Boston, U.S.A. The last-named, it will be remembered, was one of the trio—Jack Scales, Dave Barry and Ferguson—that tried to stand against Kid McCoy at Wonderland. We have stated how Taylor has improved this season, but the contest proved an unsatisfactory one from beginning to end. The clinching and holding that took place was mainly due to the Yankee. He wore a scanty costume, and one of the spectator's kerchiefs finally had to be used to adorn the American. From start to finish the bout was more a burlesque imitation of boxing, but this was mainly due to Ferguson. He seemed to want to hide his true form, and clinched at every opportunity. This is not the English system of boxing, and referees will have to be more strict if it is continued. Since the influx of American boxers clinching and holding becomes part of the game. With here and there an exception this is solely due to the tactics employed by our cousins across the pond, and who ever presides at entertainments where these men are in evidence must put a firm foot down and stop the clinching. In six-round contests George Brooks (Oxford) beat Bill Johnson (Canning Town); Patsy Haley (Deptford) beat Bill Maslin (Notting Hill); Jem Kendrick (Hackney) drew with Harry Churchill (Greenwich). In eight-round contests "Chummy" Hicks (Charlton) beat Dick Moore (Canning Town); Chas. Lampsey (Canning Town) beat Driver Digsby (R.H.A.); J. Calder (Stratford) beat J. Daley (Mile End); and Harry Montague (Woolwich) beat Joe Carter (Erith). Special six-round contest.—Ben Taylor (Woolwich) beat Sandy Ferguson (Boston, U.S.A.).—The red-headed one stood well over his rival, who after a very short spar sent the left out, but the blow was well countered. The American then sent a light left forward, but it was blocked, and in the clinch that followed the Englishman slipped down. The Bostonian was soon again in holds, and Taylor appealed to the referee, but "fight on" was the order. Breaking away, Taylor swung both hands on the body, and Ferguson clinched and held on until time was called. The Woolwich boxer was the first to start the work, and planted both hands on the body, while Sandy clinched. When in holds, his scanty costume, something like that worn by Adam in the Garden of Eden, became disarranged, and he was allowed time to put it right. The rest of the bout was like a wrestling match more than a boxing contest. Once it seemed as if Ferguson would lift the Infant up and throw him over the ropes; and at this exhibition of scientific boxing the spectators were hissing. The third round was principally productive of clinches, Ferguson holding his rival by the neck and sometimes by the legs. Ferguson had landed a hard left-handed rap on Taylor's nose, which set that member weeping very freely. Taylor was very tired, as he naturally would be from the manner in which he had forced the exchanges and the repeated attempts which he had been required to make so as to break from Ferguson's embrace. During this round Sandy's Eden-like costume again went wrong, and a kerchief was lent by one of the spectators to assist him. The fourth round was simply a repetition of the clinching and holding tactics, and Sandy's fig-leaf again wanted seeing to, while in the next round loud laughter was caused by the peculiar antics of the American's costume. The last meeting was the only one worth seeing, and there was more earnest work in this than in the rest of the bout. Ben was the first to lead at the dial, and his opponent sent a hot 'un on the ribs. They clinched, but breaking away, Taylor sent the left on the body twice, and a rally took place until time was called. The decision, "Taylor," was enthusiastically received, and the American offered to fight him for £200 a-side early in January.

SATURDAY NIGHT AT WONDERLAND.

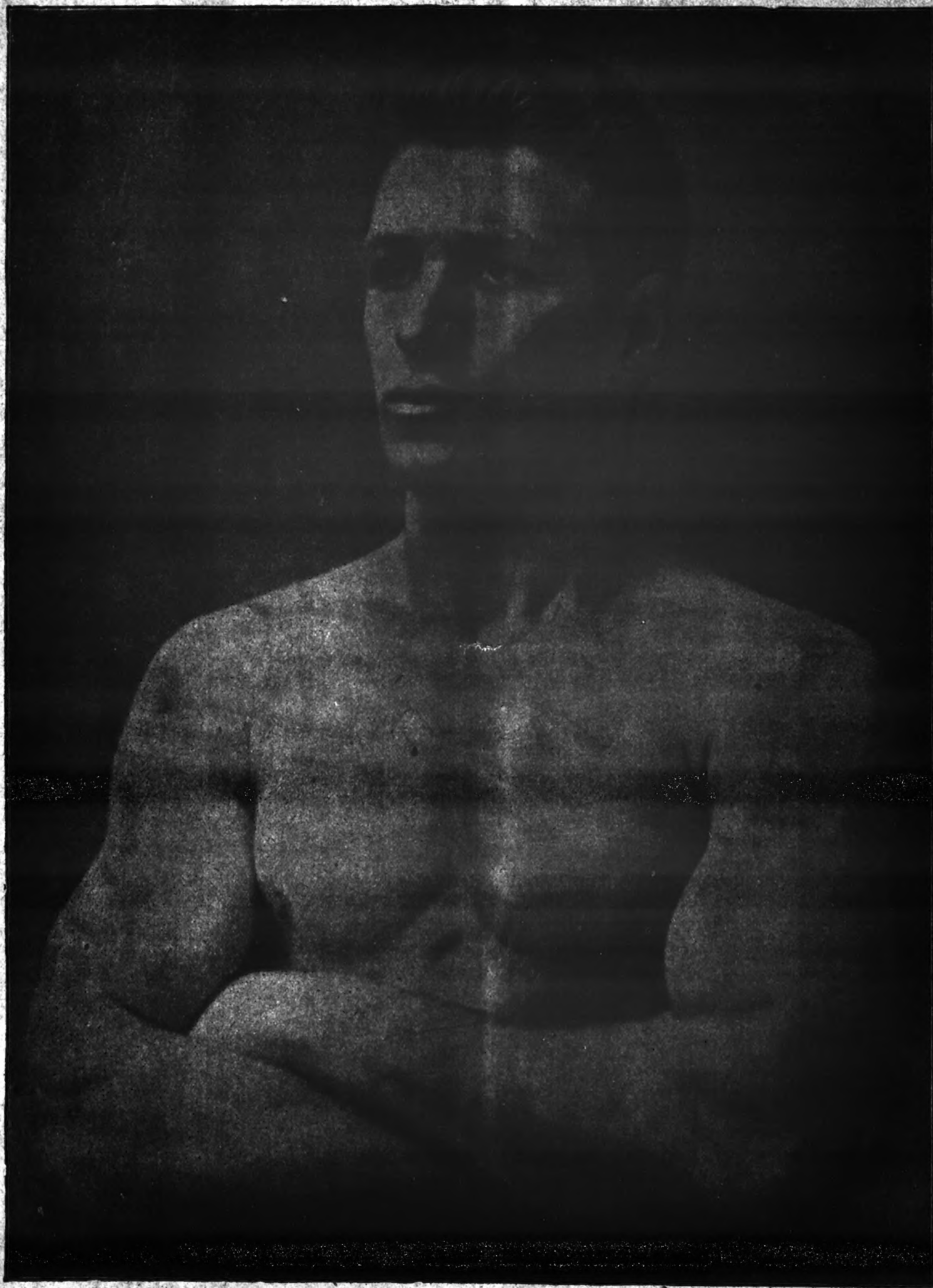
A 9st. COMPETITION.

THE week before Christmas is a bad one for every class of entertainment—the music-halls and theatres being practically empty—and boxing promoters have to bear their share of empty benches. No other reason can be ascribed for the poor attendance at Wonderland on Saturday, for Messrs. Harry Wright and Jacobs catered for their patrons with their usual lavish hand. The programme was composed of a 9st. competition, for which such well-known men as Bill Hough (Bermondsey), Bert Adams (Spitalfields), Joe Barrett (Clerkenwell), and Harry Fowler (Bethnal Green), among others, had sent in their names; an eight-round contest between Jumbo Smith (Mitcham) and Fatty Pendleham (Waltham); and six-round contests between Jewey Cook (Hammersmith) and Ted Ware (Mile End), Joe Goodwin (Spitalfields) and Bill Dickenson (Finsbury), and Jim Glover (Bloomsbury) and Bert Gower (Mile End), the latter bout being of the order that delights patrons of this hall. The officials were: Referee, "Dr." Gooch; judges, Harry Lee and W. Defries; timekeeper, Charley Edney; M.C., George Harris; the boxers being attended to by Bill Day, Bill Natty, Patsy Griffiths, and Albert Dixon. Details:—

9st. Competition.—Bert Adams (Spitalfields) beat Arthur Willoughby (Hounslow).—The Hounslow man was outpaced throughout. Still he made a good show, and there was not a great deal in it when Adams received the verdict. Bill Hough (Bermondsey) beat Fred McKenzie (Homerton).—Much the smarter, Hough had matters all his own way, and, with McKenzie in difficulties towards the end of the second round, the referee stopped the contest.—Joe Barrett (Clerkenwell) beat Fred Williams (Holborn).—Barrett soon got going, and, Williams being beaten all over the ring, the bout was stopped early in the second. Harry Fowler (Bethnal Green) beat Willie Stone (Spitalfields).—Aided by his advantage in height, Fowler, leading nicely with a straight left, did well in the first two meetings. The Spitalfields lad, who started slowly, became much brisker towards the finish, and, putting in some good two-handed work, was not a long way behind when Fowler won. Second Series.—Hough beat Fowler.—The Bermondsey lad was in first-rate condition. Taller and longer in the reach, Fowler got away smartly, his left being far more effective than his opponent's in the first round. At the second meeting Hough hustled his rival about, landing well with both hands. The third set-to was thoroughly interesting. Hough proved the stronger, and though the judges disagreed at the close, the referee did not hesitate in giving his award to the Bermondsey youth. Owing to Adams retiring with a bad arm, Barrett had a bye, which he sparred with Fred Maloney, of Hackney. The final bout is to take place on Boxing Night.

Eight-round Contest.—Jumbo Smith (Mitcham) beat Fatty Pendleham (Waltham).—This was a return match, these bantam-weights having contested ten rounds on the previous Saturday, when Smith well won on points. Again it was all one way, Pendleham never being able to keep pace with the Mitcham lad. His gameness was indisputable, but, after taking heavy punishment for four rounds, he was compelled early in the fifth to cry enough. The bout was received with acclamation by the company present, in which a plucky loser was not forgotten.

Six-round Contests.—Jewey Cook (Hammersmith) v. Ted Ware (Mile End).—These well-known light-weights sparred six light but scientific rounds; the result being a draw. Joe Goodwin (Spitalfields) beat Bill Dickenson (Finsbury).—In the opening rounds Goodwin twice sent his man to the floor with stinging right-handers, but Dickenson persevered in plucky fashion, and in the next two meetings almost drew level. Goodwin did by far the best work in the last two rounds, and at the close was a good winner. Bert Gower (Mile End) beat Jim Glover (Bermondsey).—Both started swinging with left and right, and were soon very busy. Glover thrice had his man down in the first round from stinging hits on the face. Gower suffered severely in the second and third rounds, but hung on in the pluckiest possible manner. Glover went weak in the fourth round, and the Mile Ender, getting him in a corner, patted him for all he was worth. He sank down a beaten lad, and, though time saved him, he did not care to resume a fifth time, and Gower has only to thank his pluck for a lucky win.

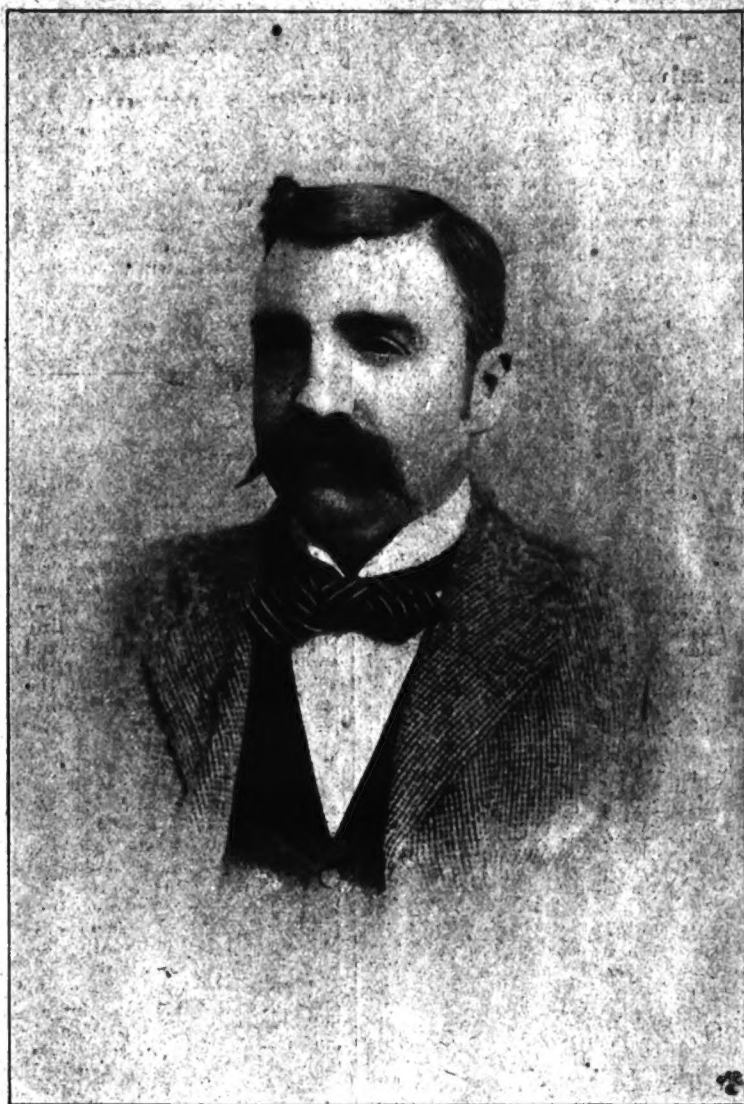


JOE CHOYNSKI,

A Californian Heavy-weight who has fought for the World's Championship.



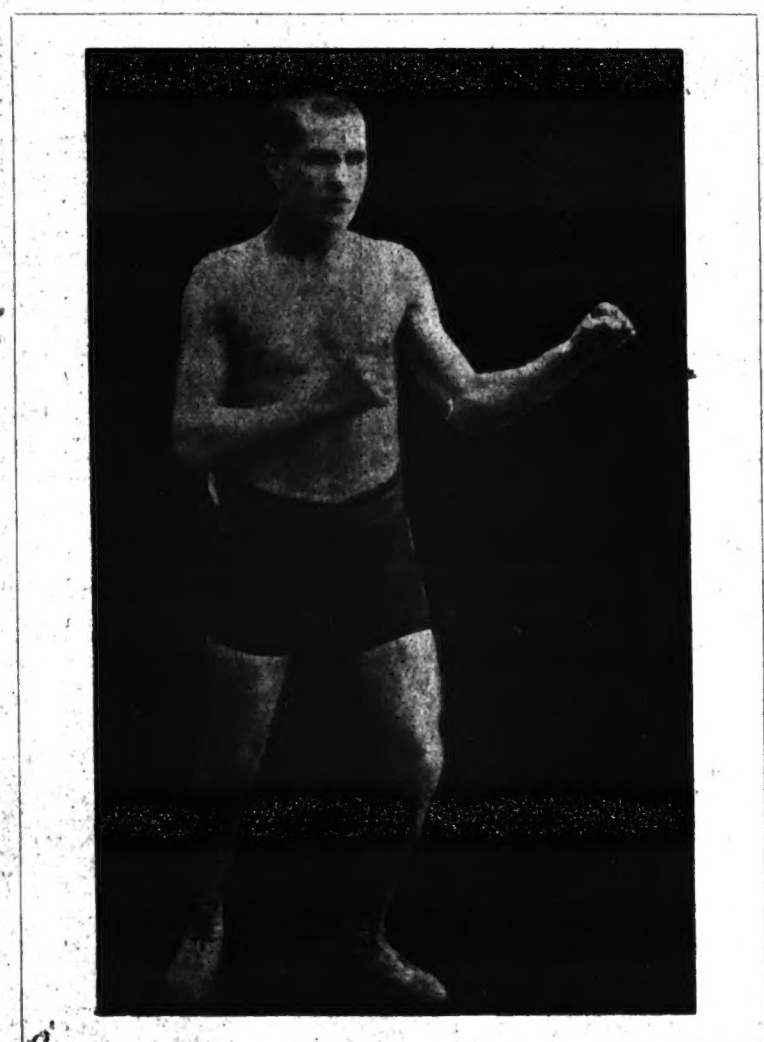
JIMMY CURRAN,
Of Rotherham, who was matched to meet Jabez White,
of Birmingham, on Monday, December 23.



HARRY BELL,
The popular Host of that noted resort of the Fancy "The
White Horse," Rupert Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, the
Headquarters of the Shaftesbury Rowing Club.



MR. R. P. RICHARDS, EDDY PEARCE, JOE SMITH, ALF RODWAY,
ALF RODWAY,
Of Ebbw Vale, Matched with Bill Griffiths to Fight at
Brynmawr, South Wales.



BILL GRIFFITHS,
Of New Tredegar, who meets Alf Rodway at the
Drill Hall, Brynmawr, for £50 a-side.

AT NEWCASTLE.

THE LONDONER WHIPS THE NOVOCASTRIAN.

There was a very large company at Ginnett's Circus last Saturday, when the chief of several interesting items was a 12-round contest between Archie Wright, of London, and J. McGurk, of Gateshead. The pair had previously met, when McGurk gained the verdict on points; but the Londoner not being satisfied, another meeting was arranged. On this occasion Wright made no mistake; for he knocked his man out in the eighth round. Details:—

In Six-round Contests.—J. Armstrong v. J. Martin, a draw.—This proved a good bout, these locals being applauded at every exchange of blows. In the opening round Martin went for his opponent, and a hard fight was seen, both lads being on equal terms at half-time. To the end they fought out the issue, and the verdict was "a draw."

J. McCormack beat W. Pearson.—There was no mincing matters when these boys took the centre; and it was evident they intended to win, or, in sporting vernacular, die in the attempt. They wasted not an instant in unnecessary sparring, but fought at a great rate all over the ring. They kept it up to the end, when the award went as above.

J. Foster beat J. Gibb.—The first bout was not of a scientific character, but it was a hard-hitting one on the part of both. After a hard second round Gibb rushed away at the commencement of the third; but Foster proved the stronger, and, getting well on, placed his antagonist hors de combat.

TWELVE-ROUND CONTEST.

Archie Wright (London) beat J. McGurk (Gateshead).

These lads had met at this hall a few weeks previously, and the Londoner was not satisfied with the decision, and accepted the purse offered by Mr. James Lowes for the contest under notice. The North-country youth was seconded by J. Hall and his two brothers, while Spider Carr, Jack Dixon and Jack Tait saw to Wright's wants. Directly time was called the Londoner sent the left in the face, and followed it up by placing both hands on the body. McGurk then woke up, and a hot passage of arms delighted the onlookers. Wright was again the aggressor, and some sharp rallies took place, Wright being still in front. When they again resumed it was Mac who was first, but he soon found his man in a like humour, and loud applause greeted the rest of the way. The Londoner was again in evidence at the next meeting, and going strong, added to his already long lead, in spite of all his opponent's attempts to score. Both lads were willing, nay eager, to have a fight, and in the serious business of the night Wright was the cleverer. He scored well, and his opponent stuck well until the eighth round, when Wright placed one of the wind-bag and another under the heart, and Mac was counted out. Tom Murphy was referee, S. Francis and M. Nealis judges, and Mr. Lumley held the watch.

AT THE CANTERBURY.

THE CONSOLATION PRIZE.

The competition having been brought to a happy conclusion on Friday at the Canterbury Music Hall, the consolation prize offered by Mr. Fred Miller was decided. During the week all the "bantams" were on view, and the final, decided on Friday, only added to the interest of the consolation. As a matter of fact, however, the decision at the end of the contest was by no means popular. From the start Fitzpatrick seemed to hold his own, but though he tired towards the close, he certainly should have been given the verdict, Lamb, the winner, being well out.

George Corfield (Sheffield) and Sailor Richardson sparred a scientific three-round display. As earlier in the week, the boys put up a very clever set-to, Corfield having all the best of matters. Consolation Prize.—Jack Lamb (Lambeth) beat Jack Fitzpatrick (Canning Town).—The last-named had the advantage of height, weight, and reach, and landed when and where he liked in the first round. Coming up for the second, he was well in front for a minute, and then Lamb settled down to business. Planting left and right to the body he equalised matters by the time the final was entered upon. They were in holds most of the time towards the finish, and, the judges disagreeing, Lamb got the verdict, a result which was received with hisses.

Young Plough, of Leicester, would like to box any lad in London or Leicester at 8st. 6 lbs., give or take nothing, if Tom Wickwar or any boxing promoter will give a purse worth boxing for. An answer through this paper will lead to business.

BOXING IN WALES.

RODWAY v. GRIFFITHS.

The last big match of the year takes place on Christmas Eve, at Brynmawr, South Wales, between Bill Griffiths, of New Tredegar, and Alf Rodway, of Ebbw Vale. The articles appear in another part of this paper, and they meet at catch-weights for £50 a-side at the Drill Hall, Brynmawr. Both lads have been in training—Rodway at The White Swan, at Huleot, under the charge of Joe Smith and Eddy Pearce, whilst Griffiths has been training among his own native hills. A great fight is certain, and a packed house should be seen.

AT LIVERPOOL.

Boxing is likely to make its way ahead rapidly in Liverpool after the advertisement afforded by the bout between the two Americans, Jack O'Brien and Yank Kenny. Last Thursday evening there was a very good attendance at the Malakoff Club—the tit-bit of the evening was a 12-round contest for £20, between Johnny White (Liverpool) and Frank Stewart (Manchester). After the preliminary bouts had been decided, the lads entered the magic circle, White being attended by J. Bell, Charlie Davies and B. Bogue, while in his rival's corner were Young Mack, T. Sweeney and Alf. Harry. Mr. W. Jones officiated as timekeeper; and Mr. R. Humphreys was the referee. The men were well matched in height, weight, and reach; and, after the opening spar, the local man sent a light left on the body, which was returned with interest by two blows on the jaw. During a sharp rally, they clinched; and, on breaking away, both swung for the point without reaching the desired object. The next meeting was opened by White planting the left on the dial; and a hard right in the "darby." He also weakened his man by a series of hard body blows; and, at the next meeting, twice he sent him to the boards. In the sixth round Stewart came again. But it was an effort; and, after holding his own for half the time, he was forced round the ring, while White added to his already long lead. Gamely the Manchester lad struggled; and, at times, he seemed like getting the right home. But strength told its tale in the long run; and White had well won when the award went forth in his favour.

MRS. J. BENJAMIN'S BENEFIT.

Despite the near approach of Christmas, the inhabitants of the East-end of London rallied in large numbers at the Shoreditch Town Hall last Wednesday night to support a very deserving cause. Mrs. J. Benjamin, who is left with five children totally unprovided for, was supported by lots of good sportsmen whose respect for her late husband was again re-echoed. The programme for the grand concert was made up of the following: Mons. Robins, the Gordon Trio, Nat Travers, Tom Davis, Lena Mantou, Bert Lytton, Chas. Dexter, Grace Estelle, Arthur Elvey, Harry Clements, Clara de Vane, Sam Williams, Kate Weston, Johnny Thompson, Frank Folly, Marie Foyle, A. B. Houghton, the great Geo. Bendon, Sam Hart, Harry Rogers, Master Asher, Miss Augusta Page, Miss Katie Clay, Miss Alice Page, George Asher, Will Hart, Willis and Willis and Tom Foster. In the course of the evening Messrs. Harry Wright and Harry Jacobs, of Wonderland fame, produced a parlour scene of champions and celebrities of the fistic profession. Several excellent spars were indulged in. Joe Birchell made an efficient M.C. The whole affair proved a big success, both financially and otherwise, thanks to a very hard-working committee.

Harry Brown will hold a grand smoking concert at St. George's Hall, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, on Thursday, January 16, 1902. A number of his fellow music-hall stars have promised to turn up and do Harry a turn; and a grand night's entertainment should ensue. A start will be made at eight o'clock, and, among others, the chair will be occupied by Harry Bell, the popular host of the White Horse, Rupert-street, Shaftesbury-avenue.

Glen Danzig.—Martin Balla, "Champion Clog Dancer of the World," hearing so much talk of people styling themselves champion clog dancers of the world, and having danced for the title and belt at the Bow Empire, beating two competitors in one night, doing twenty steps and a shuffle each time, is annoyed at these pretensions. Melia worked the Sadler's Wells Theatre, two houses nightly, making a total number of eighty-four steps in the one night.

BOXIANA.

Young Tweed Herity, Belfast, is open to take £30 to £20, and box Jim Long, Leeds, at 8st. 7lbs. for Tom Boyer's purse; or, if Jim Boyer likes to fight, he can be accommodated for an even £20.

G. James, Cardiff, will be pleased to box Tim Sullivan, Dowlais, six rounds for £5 a-side, if Mr. Dan Meredith will give a purse.

Mr. J. Richards will match Curley, Paddington—better known as "the Cockney of Penyaigra"—against Side Stokes, at 8st., for £25 a-side. If Stokes will forward a deposit to THE MIRROR OF LIFE (who will appoint time-keeper and referee), Mr. Richardson will meet him and his backer any time in Cardiff by appointment.

A great assault-at-arms will take place at the Town Hall, Portobello, Scotland, on January 27, when all the Scottish champions will appear. Edinburgh boxers and heavy-weight lifters, as well as a couple of Scottish wrestlers, should send their names and addresses to Geo. Galbraith, 87, High-street, Portobello, as soon as possible.

Harry Brown, Liverpool, and Jim Gordon, Salford, are to decide which is the superior on Boxing Day, at the Liverpool Gymnastic Club, Dale-street, when a packed house is certain.

W. Foster, the well-known Cardiff boxer, was injured in a cab accident at Cardiff last Saturday, sustaining a fracture of a leg. He was taken to the South Wales Infirmary, where he is now progressing favourably.

Joe Ross, London, and Jim Driscoll, Cardiff, will box ten two-minute rounds, under Queensberry rules, on Boxing Day, for £25 a-side and the purse offered by Dan Meredith, the match to take place at the Swiss Hall, Cardiff. A special account of the match will appear in our next edition, this journal being represented on the occasion by Mr. R. Josephs.

Bill Brierley will be pleased to box Jim Barry the rubber, Barry to scale at 9st. 12lbs., and Brierley at catch-weight, for from £50 to £100 a-side, within a month from signing articles. An answer through THE MIRROR OF LIFE will oblige.

In answer to Thompson, of Warrington, Burns, of Widnes, will box him at his own weight, 8st. 10lbs., for £25 a-side and the best purse offered. Failing Thompson, Pennington, of Patricroft, can have a match, Pennington to weight 7st. 10lbs. and Burns at catch-weight; Canavan, of Blackburn, can have a match on the same terms as Pennington, for £25 a-side and the best purse offered.

Seeing that the result of his contest with Nelson was such a close thing, Goss would like another match with the Newcastle man on the same terms. An answer through this paper will receive prompt attention.

Jack Nelson and Spider Carr wish to return thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Wheatley, of the Jolly Farmers Hotel, Houghton-le-Spring, for their kindness and attention to them during their residence at the hostelry, in preparation for the match with Frank Goss.

Jos. Barr's novice, Terry O'Brien, will be pleased to box Tom Pascoe (Croydon) any number of rounds at 9st. 8lbs., give or take 2lbs., if Professors Thorne, Vaughan or Fitzpatrick will give a purse.

Ned Sheehan, of Spitalfields, would like to box Drummer Pollard (Middlesex Regiment), six or eight rounds, if any gentleman or club will give a purse. An answer through THE MIRROR OF LIFE will lead to business.

Alf. Clarke, of Clerkenwell, hearing that Bill Broad, of Holborn, is in want of a match, will box him six or eight rounds, if any promoter will give a purse; Wonderland preferred.

Harry Smith, of Birmingham, and Jim Roche, of Wexford, have been matched to box twenty rounds, at catch-weights, on Christmas Day, at the Liverpool Gymnastic Club. The engagement is for £25 a-side and a purse of £40. On the same evening, Jack Watson and Jack Boyle, both of Manchester, are article to go fifteen rounds for a purse.

Geo. Phalin, of Birmingham, is prepared to make a match with Bill Steward (Norwich), at 8st. 6lbs. (give or take 2lbs.), for £50 or £100 a-side and the best purse offered. Phalin would like to hear from Cutler with regard to their proposed match. George is ready to sign articles for a contest at 8st. 6lbs. (give or take 2lbs.), for £100 (or more if Cutler desires) a-side and the best purse offered.

Alf. Bright, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, in reply to George Wills, Liverpool, is willing to box him for £15 a-side and the best purse offered.

Jack Owens, of Liverpool, will box Young Whelligan, at 8st. 4lbs., for £15 a-side. Failing him, Owens will box Willie Gill at the same weight, providing Gill will lay odds of 2 to 1.

Jack Fulton will box Jack Nelson, of Newcastle, at 9st. 8lbs., for £50 or £100 a-side and the best purse procurable; or anyone in England can have a match on the same terms.

Jim Welch, of Bethnal Green, will be pleased to box Digger Stanley or Bill Lewis, six or eight rounds, if Harry Wright or any other promoter will give a purse.

Wal Thomas, Birmingham, is anxious to hear from Bill Wood with regard to his challenge. The Midlander is prepared to make a match, at 9st. 6lbs., for £50 a-side and the best purse offered.

E. Godwin, Birmingham, is prepared to box Jack Tait (Newcastle) fifteen (or twenty rounds, at 7st. 6lbs., for £25 a-side and the best purse offered. A reply through THE MIRROR OF LIFE will be attended to. Godwin is also prepared to box Cockney Cohen (Leeds) twenty rounds, at 7st. 6lbs., for £25 a-side and the best purse offered.

Wal Thomas, Birmingham, is prepared to box Jim Barry (London) fifteen or twenty rounds, at 9st. 6lb., for £50 a-side and the best purse offered. A reply through this paper will lead to business.

Dick Ward, of Liverpool, in answer to Tit Whittaker, will box him the best of ten three-minute rounds for the purse offered by Punch Vaughan, and will meet him at the Malakoff Club on Thursday night to make arrangements.

Alf. Harry, of Liverpool, will box Joe White, of Liverpool, any number of rounds, for £25 to £50 a-side, the match to take place within six weeks from signing articles.

F. Burgess, of Salford, will box Young Herberts, of Broughton, ten two-minute rounds, at 7st. 10lbs. or 7st. 12lbs. for Messrs. Moorey and Hirst's purse. Young Fitzsimmons or Young Schofield, of Ashton, can also be accommodated.

Jim Long is training under the care of Billy Bean at the Windsor Hotel, just outside Leeds, for his contest with Bill Vardy, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, which takes place on January 14, for £10 a-side and the £20 purse given by Father Tom Boyce, of the Albert Boxing Club, Commercial-court, Belfast. Long also wishes to return his sincere thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Boyce, Jim Boyce (his late opponent), Ned Boyce, Mr. and Mrs. Denny Malone, Sam Wilson, and all friends for their kindness to him during his stay in Ireland.

Dave Peters, of Treorchy, South Wales, would like to box Jack Palmer, of Newcastle, for £100 a-side, at 11 st. 4 lbs., with 4-oz. gloves. Peters is willing to meet Palmer by appointment in London to sign articles and post the first deposit, and he hopes Palmer will reply at once.

Johnny O'Brien, of Sunderland, is open to box any lad travelling the North of England at catch-weights for not less than £25 (open to £100). John Mattochett, of Birmingham, John Willie Gray, of Jarrow, or Jack Wright, of Wallsend, Joe Bowers, of Wallsend, can be accommodated for Billy Bliss' purse. No paper talk; business only meant.

Harry Lee stages a special boxing entertainment at Wonderland, on Monday, January 13, 1902. An extraordinary large programme is to be decided on that evening; and Roger Mustoe, of H.M. Navy, who holds the heavy-weight championship of the China Station, will be prepared to meet anybody in a six-round trial bout. At Hong Kong this year Mustoe again won the heavy-weight championship, beating a big American marine at the Public Hall.

Jack Haggerty, of the Leeds and County A.C., has arranged a splendid programme for Monday next at his resort. The principal item is a twenty-round contest for the 8st. 4lbs. championship belt of the North of England and £100 between Cockney Cohen (Leeds) and Will Atkinson (Bradford). The editor of the "Sporting Chronicle" holds the stakes and appoints referee and timekeeper. This should be a good fight, and one worth seeing.

The world-famed Dunedin Troupe of Australian cymbals are going great guns at the Middlesex and Camberwell Music Halls. They have been engaged by Milton Bode for the pantomime at Wolverhampton, after which they open a six months' Continental tour at Bremen, Hanover, and Berlin.

Bob Ledwick, of Lambeth, seeing that W. Kelly is in want of a match at ball-punching, would like to meet him on a one-string hall in the Lancashire style for no less than £5 a-side, if any club or gentleman will provide a prize.